

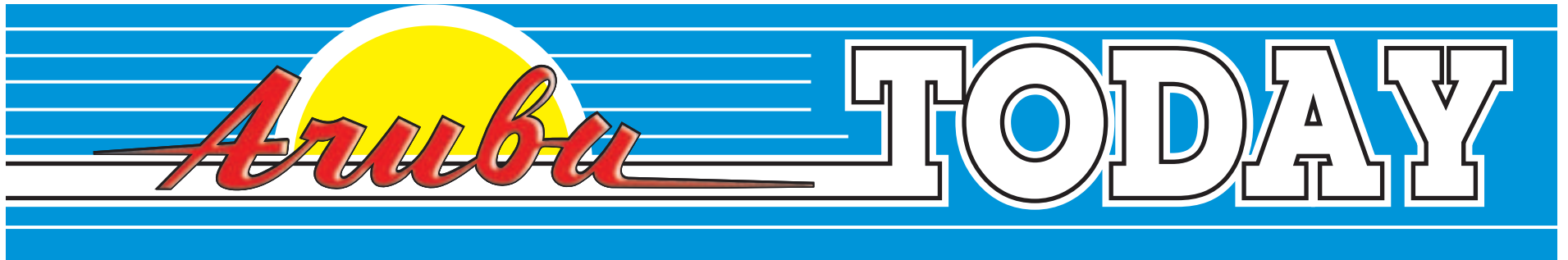
2013 ROTARY GOLF TOURNAMENT A HIT AT DIVI LINKS

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REPUBLICANS CALL ON CONGRESSMAN RADEL TO RESIGN

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On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, November 27, 2013

COURT TO WEIGH CONTRACEPTION

ADAM LIPTAK

© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to hear a pair of cases on whether corporations may refuse to provide insurance coverage for contraception to their workers based on the religious beliefs of the corporations' owners.



The Supreme Court Building is seen on Capitol Hill in Washington. (G. Demczuk/New York Times)

The cases present a new challenge to President Barack Obama's health care law. The Supreme Court in 2012 upheld another part of the law, one that requires most Americans to obtain health insurance or pay a penalty. The Obama administration has exempted many religious groups from the law's requirements for contraception coverage. But it said for-profit corporations could not rely on religious objections to opt out of compliance with the law. "Our policy is designed to ensure that health care decisions are made between a woman and her doctor," Jay Carney, the White House press secretary, said in a statement.

Continued on page 5

Obama, Senate Spar Over New Iran Sanctions



President Barack Obama pauses after concluding his statement on the historic agreement reached between six nations and Iran at the White House in Washington.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

BRADLEY KLAPPER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — An agreement secured with its greatest global foe, the Obama administration pleaded Tuesday with a more familiar if often difficult negotiating partner not to scuttle last week-end's Iran nuclear deal: Congress. Just back from his diplomatic triumph in Europe, Secretary of State John Kerry

delivered a video message to legislators as he urged that they not introduce new economic measures against Iran at a time the U.S. and fellow world powers are withdrawing some sanctions in exchange for the Iranians curtailing their nuclear program.

Kerry asserted that now is the time to get to work on a final agreement that removes any suspicion that Iran is trying to produce

nuclear weapons. "We all know that if the agreement falls apart, Iran is going to quickly face even tougher sanctions," he said.

Although Kerry was reaching out personally to key senators, Democrats and Republicans appeared determined to increase the pressure on Tehran. Many in Congress are skeptical, if not outright hostile, to the deal reached in Geneva. Two key senators already

are at work on legislation to reinstate the full force of sanctions and impose new ones if Iran doesn't make good on its pledge to roll back its nuclear program. "The American people need an insurance policy to prevent a rerun of North Korea," said Sen. Mark Kirk, a Republican who is drafting a bill alongside Sen. Bob Menendez, a Democrat.

Continued on page 3

Global free trade talks collapse

JOHN HEILPRIN
Associated Press
GENEVA (AP) —

Negotiators came tantalizingly close but failed to clinch a global free trade deal after more than a decade of talks that could have boosted the world economy by \$1 trillion, the head of the World Trade Organization said Tuesday.

Roberto Azevedo said diplomats from the WTO's 159

"Time would not remedy this situation," he told a news conference.

The negotiations sought to ease the rules of global commerce by cutting red tape to open markets and help develop poorer economies. They also focused on tariff quotas, government incentives for exports and agriculture issues such as subsidies for grain stockpiling. But disputes be-

our grasp," he said.

Some diplomats, like Moroccan Ambassador Omar Hilale, held out hope that trade ministers could still reach a deal when they meet in Bali. But most said it was too late.

Azevedo said there remains so much disagreement that several more weeks of negotiations could not close the gaps.

"Holding negotiations in



World Trade Organization, WTO, Director General Roberto Azevedo, of Brazil, informs the media about the next ministerial meeting on Bali during a press conference, after the General Council at the headquarters of the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013.
(AP Photo/Keystone, Salvatore Di Nolfi)

members tried hard but "cannot cross the finish line here in Geneva" ahead of a summit where ministers were to have signed the deal in Bali, Indonesia next week. He said more progress was made in the past weeks than over the past five years, but that was still not enough as some countries were proving inflexible on some issues.

tween major economies such as the United States, the European Union, China and India bogged down the discussions. Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Michael Punke expressed "a great deal of sadness" over the failure. "We're worried - alongside so many in this room - that a once-in-a-generation opportunity may have slipped

the short time we'll have in Bali would be simply impractical with over 100 ministers around the table," he said.

The Bali summit has been cast as a last chance to revive the so-called "Doha Round" of WTO-brokered talks that began in Qatar in 2001 and frustrated Azevedo's predecessor, Pascal Lamy. □

Israel officials say EU spat resolved

JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press
JERUSALEM (AP) —

Israel has resolved a diplomatic spat with the European Union over a funding ban on institutions operating in occupied areas claimed by the Palestinians, Israeli officials said Tuesday. The dispute had shaken Israel's relations with Europe, its biggest trading partner, and drawn attention to Israel's much-maligned policy of building settlements

in the West Bank and east Jerusalem. The Palestinians claim both areas, captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war, as parts of a future independent state. The dispute surrounded the EU's "Horizon 2020" program, which enables participants to apply for funds for research and collaboration in areas such as climate change, renewable energy and food safety. The EU has budgeted more than 70 billion euros (\$95 billion)

for the program, which is to run from 2014 to 2020, and officials estimate that Israel could gain 300 million euros (\$400 million) from the complicated funding system over the seven-year period. While Israel has long participated in similar programs, the EU has added some tough language to its eligibility guidelines for funding projects in the West Bank, east Jerusalem and other territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war. □

Belfast police raise security to deter new IRA bombers

SHAWN POGATCHNIK
Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP) — Northern Ireland's police heightened security Tuesday, deploying roadblocks in Belfast to deter potential car bomb attacks by Irish Republican Army militants, following the first such failed attack on the capital in a decade.

Sunday's 130-pound (60-kilogram) bomb failed to detonate after being parked at the underground entrance to Belfast's biggest, glitziest shopping center. The attack — the latest and largest in a series of failed bomb attacks using buses, cars, booby traps and letter bombs — illustrated how Northern Ireland cannot take its peace for granted.

Police commanders and security analysts warned that IRA splinter groups opposed to the outlawed group's 1997 cease-fire have increased their bombing efforts in the run-up to Christmas, a holiday that Irish republican extremists long have targeted in hopes of harming Northern Ireland's economy.

But reaction to the latest attack underscored how much Belfast has changed since the major IRA faction, the Provisionals, renounced violence and disarmed in 2005. Attacks by today's IRA remnants are distinguished by their small scale, poor resources and lack of success.

While police were more visible Tuesday, they patrolled on bicycles and in normal cars, not armored personnel carriers. And central Belfast remained a hive of shopping, business and tourist activity focused on an outdoor Christmas market, scenes unrecognizable from the 1990s, when workers fled a lifeless city center by early evening.

Belfast Mayor Mairtin O Muilleoir, a member of the Irish nationalist Sinn Fein party who once supported Provisional IRA violence, met police commanders to discuss how to increase security without deterring business. Since gaining office in June, O Muilleoir has made reconciliation with the territory's British Protestant majority his top priority and describes IRA die-hards as the enemy of the people.

"The people who attacked Belfast want to wreck Christmas, and the rest of us aren't going to let them," he said.

While IRA splinter groups have committed violence in spurts ever since Northern Ireland's Good Friday peace accord of 1998, police have identified an upward trend in recent weeks. Statistics show that October featured 16 attempted bombings, the worst level in three years, including four letter bombs addressed to top policemen and Britain's minister responsible for the province. All were spotted by Royal Mail screening technology or office secretaries.

Already this month, a former police officer dodged likely death in Belfast by spotting a booby-trap bomb under his car. In Londonderry, Northern Ireland's second-largest city, suspected IRA members twice have handed bombs to innocent motorists and ordered them to deliver the weapon to the city's police headquarters.

Unusually, both refused. A bus driver abandoned her bus at a stop instead, while a fast-food delivery man fled on foot from the bombers.

That would rarely have happened in the past, when the much bigger Provisional IRA deployed credible menace and death threats to ensure cooperation. Provisionals typically would take the driver's family hostage, or follow the driver in a second vehicle and threaten to detonate the bomb by remote control if the car wasn't parked outside the specified target. □

Obama, Senate spar over new Iran sanctions threats

Continued from Front

Critics of the accord reached in Geneva believe it could allow Iran to trick international monitors while it assembles an atomic weapons arsenal, similar to North Korea last decade.

Iran sanctions evoke great passion in Washington. Although Obama sees the economic pressure as the key motivation for bringing Iran's new moderate President Hassan Rouhani to the negotiating table, pulling them back is the administration's only real carrot for securing nuclear concessions.

Congress, which passed the sanctions, is leery. Israel sees any letup on the economic pressure as a dangerous concession that allows Iran to move even closer to nuclear weapons capability. And the powerful American Israel Public Affairs Committee has joined the call, saying new sanctions are needed "so that Iran will face immediate consequences should it renege on its commitments or refuse to negotiate an acceptable final

agreement."

Menendez and Kirk hope to have their bill ready for other lawmakers to consider when the Senate returns Dec. 9 from its two-week recess, according to legislative aides.

The measure would require the administration to certify every 30 days that Iran is adhering to the terms of the six-month interim agreement and that it hasn't been involved in any act of terrorism against the United States.

Without that certification, sanctions worth more than \$1 billion a month would be re-imposed and new sanctions would be added. The new penalties would include bans on investing in Iran's engineering, mining and construction industries and a global boycott of Iranian oil by 2015. Foreign companies and banks violating the sanctions would be barred from doing business in the United States.

The senators want to send the bill to the president before the end of the year, said the aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak by name on the matter. White



Sen. John McCain and Sen. Jeff Flake listen to a question about the temporary agreement to freeze Iran's disputed nuclear program as they hold a town hall meeting in Mesa, Ariz.

(AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin)

House officials wouldn't say if Obama might veto such legislation.

Kerry, whose message sought to push back against what he called "misinformation," spoke privately by telephone with Menendez in an effort to sway him, officials said. The secretary of state warned of dire consequences.

"Passing any new sanctions legislation during the course of the negotiations, in our view, would be unhelpful," State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said. □

US pleads for release of ex-FBI agent held in Iran

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House on Tuesday made a holiday appeal to Iran to return a retired FBI agent and two other Americans being held in the country.

Robert Levinson, the former FBI agent, disappeared during a business trip to Iran's Kish Island in March 2007.

The United States believes the private investigator and father of seven was abducted and is being held in Iran. Levinson's case was a topic in recent negotiations between U.S. and Iran aimed at addressing Iran's nuclear program and improving diplomatic ties.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Tuesday that Obama specifically raised Levinson's case as

well as those of U.S. citizens Saeed Abedini and Amir Hekmati, who currently are detained in Iran, during a telephone conversation earlier in the fall with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani. Abedini is a pastor; Hekmati is a former U.S. Marine.

"It is our view that all of these Americans should have the opportunity to come home," Earnest told reporters traveling with Obama in Los Angeles.

"The US government has made a respectful request of the Iranian regime during this holiday season to consider on humanitarian grounds releasing these three Americans, or at least releasing the two Americans we know are detained and locating the whereabouts of the third, Mr. Levinson." □



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Republicans call on Florida congressman to resign

TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — An aide to a U.S. Congressman who recently pleaded guilty to cocaine possession says the Republican is focusing on rehab and will return to work as soon as possible, despite calls from party leaders in Florida for him to step down. Republican U.S. Rep. Trey Radel's "top priority right now is to complete his rehabilitation and then return to work as soon as possible," spokesman Dave Natonski wrote Tuesday in an email to The Associated Press. Gov. Rick Scott, meanwhile, joined the growing number of Republican leaders in Florida who have urged Radel to step down.

"My thoughts and prayers are with Radel and his family," said Scott. Radel, if he refuses to resign, could only be expelled from the House of Representatives if two-thirds of the members agree, an extremely rare move. Only two House members have been expelled, both for bribery, since the mid-1800s. Meanwhile, the Naples Daily News reported that it spoke to Radel on Tuesday morning at his downtown Naples rehabilitation facility. The paper took photos of Radel wearing a T-shirt and jeans, smoking and talking with another man while seated at a picnic table. "I'm here talking to my buddy," he told the paper.



Rep. Henry "Trey" Radel, R-Fla., is seen on Capitol Hill in Washington. The chairman of the Republican Party of Florida on Monday, Nov. 25, 2013, called for Radel to step down following his recent cocaine conviction.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

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"It really is upsetting," he continued, "As I sit here and work on focusing on my family and health with people coming and harassing me."

On Monday, the chairman of the Republican Party of Florida suggested Radel should step down after his recent cocaine conviction in Washington, joining party leaders in Radel's own district calling for his resignation.□

AP NewsBreak: Not guilty verdict in piracy case

FREDERIC J. FROMMER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. jury Tuesday found a Somali man who acted as a negotiator for pirates aboard a hijacked ship not guilty of piracy, but had not yet reached a verdict on two lesser charges. Ali Mohamed Ali, 51, who would have faced a mandatory life sentence if convicted of piracy, smiled and embraced one of his lawyers after the verdict was announced. He then removed his glasses and dabbed his eyes. A friend in the courtroom sobbed. Ali has been held in a city jail for more than 2½ years. U.S. District Judge Ellen Huvelle told the jurors, who began deliberations last Wednesday, to continue deliberating on two remaining charges of hostage-taking and conspiracy to commit hostage-taking. Both of those charges

carry potential, but not mandatory life sentences, and Ali is unlikely to receive a life sentence even if the jury convicts him on those charges. Ali negotiated a ransom for Somali pirates during a 2008 pirate takeover of a Danish merchant ship in the Gulf of Aden. At the time of his 2011 arrest, he was the education minister in Somaliland, a breakaway region of Somalia, but he has spent most of his adult life in the United States. Pirates seized the M/V CEC Future in November 2008, and Ali boarded the boat a couple of days later. An English speaker, he communicated the demands of the pirates with officials from Clipper Group, the ship's owner. The pirates initially demanded a \$7 million ransom, but settled for \$1.7 million at the end of the more than two-month-long siege.□

Justices take cases challenging contraception rule

Continued from Front

"The president believes that no one, including the government or for-profit corporations, should be able to dictate those decisions to women."

The lower courts are divided over whether for-profit corporations may object to generally applicable laws on religious liberty grounds.

In June, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit, in Denver, ruled for Hobby Lobby, a corporation owned by a family whose members have said they try to run the business on Christian principles.

The company, which operates a chain of arts-and-crafts stores and has more than 15,000 full-time employees of many faiths, objected to a requirement in the health care law requiring large employers to provide their workers with comprehensive insurance coverage for contraception.

Hobby Lobby told the justices that it had no problem with offering coverage for many forms of contraception, including condoms, diaphragms, sponges, several kinds of birth control pills and sterilization surgery. But drugs and devices that can prevent embryos from implanting in the womb are another matter, and make it complicit in a form of abortion, the company said.

The law presents companies with difficult choices, Hobby Lobby told the justices. Failing to offer comprehensive coverage could subject it to fines of \$1.3 million a day, it said, while dropping insurance coverage for its employees entirely could lead to fines of \$26 million a year. The 10th Circuit ruled that Hobby Lobby was a "person" under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, and that its religious beliefs had been compromised without good reason.

Kyle Duncan, a lawyer with the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, which represents Hobby Lobby,



Customers enter a Hobby Lobby store in Denver. The Supreme Court has agreed to referee another dispute over President Barack Obama's health care law, whether businesses can use religious objections to escape a requirement to cover birth control for employees. One involves Hobby Lobby Inc., an Oklahoma City-based arts and crafts chain with 13,000 full-time employees. Hobby Lobby won in the lower courts.

(AP Photo/Ed Andrieski)

said he was pleased that the justices had agreed to resolve the split among the federal appeals courts.

"We hope the Supreme Court will vindicate the rights of family business owners," he said.

Nancy Northup, the president of the Center for Reproductive Rights, said in a statement that "the right to religious freedom belongs to individuals, not for-profit institutions."

"These for-profit companies," she said, "are no more entitled to deny women insurance coverage for essential health care than they are to dictate how any of us can and cannot spend our paychecks."

In July, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit, in Philadelphia, ruled against the Conestoga Wood Specialties Corp., which makes wood cabinets and is owned by a Mennonite family that had similar objections to the law. The 3rd Circuit concluded that "for-profit, secular corporations cannot engage in religious exercise."

David Cortman, a lawyer with Alliance Defending Freedom, which represents the company and its owners, said the ruling was misguided.

"The administration has no business forcing citizens to make a choice between

making a living and living free," he said.

The 3rd Circuit rejected an analogy to the Supreme Court's 2010 decision in Citizens United, which ruled that corporations have a First Amendment right to free speech.

Though the First Amendment also protects the free exercise of religion, Judge Robert E. Cowen wrote for the majority of a divided three-judge panel, "it does not automatically follow that all clauses of the First Amendment must be interpreted identically."

But a five-judge majority of an eight-judge panel of the 10th Circuit, in the Hobby Lobby case, said that "the First Amendment logic of Citizens United" extended to religious freedom. □

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Northeast ski resorts open earlier than ever

LISA RATHKE
Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — Ski areas in the Northeast continue to pump millions of dollars in new high-tech snowmaking to draw early season skiers and riders and to ensure their slopes will remain snowy into the spring.

An early cold snap allowed resorts from Vermont to Maine to fire up snow guns in the beginning of November.

New Hampshire's Loon Mountain opened Nov. 8, its earliest top-to-bottom opening ever, thanks to a \$1.3 million investment to revamp its snowmaking.

"This season, we opened about 10 days early which is really big for us," said spokesman Greg Kwasnik. In Vermont, Okemo, Mount Snow and Bromley Mountain are among the resorts that opened in mid-November.

"It's the earliest opening that I can remember, and I've been here 40 years," Bromley President Bill Cairns said.

Stowe Mountain Resort continues its major snowmaking revamp spending another \$3.4 million on new equipment and upgrades, including 100 tower guns,

three fan guns and miles of snowmaking pipe. That's on top of \$4.7 million spent last year. Maine's two biggest resorts — Sugarloaf and Sunday River — have installed hundreds of new energy efficient snow guns for this season, on top of

Aside from more snow, skiers and riders will notice new lodging, terrain parks and glade offerings at some resorts.

Big changes to the tune of \$43 million are on the ground at Jay Peak in northern Vermont near

pipe, and rail park. And Sugarloaf has expanded its back-country-style terrain by 70 more acres (28 hectares) and added a new 30-person outdoor hot tub to its Sugarloaf Mountain Hotel. And this December holiday season at



Snow guns make snow at the Sugarbush resort in Warren, Vt. With the Farmers' Almanac predicting a cold, snowy winter, Northeast ski resorts are already seeing some early season snow.
(AP Photo/Toby Talbot)

big investments in equipment in recent years. The new high efficiency, low-energy equipment allows the resorts to keep the slopes covered at a fraction of the energy costs, eliminating the need for thousands of gallons of diesel fuel.

the Canadian border, including an 80,000-square-foot (7,430-square-meter) Stateside Hotel and base lodge and 84 new mountain cottages.

Sunday River in Maine has added a new 15-acre (6-hectare) terrain park including a jump line, super

Loon Mountain skiers and riders can visit an ice castle made out of a lattice work of icicles. It's expected to be open to the public over the December holiday.

"The walls are going to be between 25 and 45 feet (8 to 14 meters) high," Kwasnik said. □

US flies B-52s into China's air defense zone

THOM SHANKER
© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON - Two long-range U.S. bombers have conducted what Pentagon officials described Tuesday as a routine training mission through international air space recently claimed by China as its "air defense identification zone."

The Chinese government said Saturday that it had the right to identify, monitor and possibly take military action against aircraft that enter the area, which includes sea and islands also claimed by Japan. The claim threatens to escalate an already tense dispute over some of the maritime territory.

U.S. officials said that the pair of B-52s had carried out a mission that had been planned long in advance of the Chinese announcement this weekend, and that the U.S. military would continue to assert its right to fly through what it regards as international air space. Pentagon officials said the two bombers had made a round-trip flight from Guam, passing through a zone that covers sea and islands that are the subject of a sovereignty dispute between Japan and China. □

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US Financial Front:

American consumer confidence falls to 7-month low



Holiday trimmings greet shoppers around the main entry of a Target, in New York. The private Conference Board reported mixed results on consumer confidence for November on Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013.

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumers' confidence in the economy fell in November to the lowest level in seven months, dragged down by greater concerns about hiring and pay in the coming months. The Conference Board said Tuesday that its index of consumer confidence dropped to 70.4 from 72.4 in October. The October reading was higher than initially reported, but still well below the 80.2 reading in September. November's drop comes after the 16-day partial government shutdown caused confidence to plunge in October. The declines in both months were driven by falling expectations for hiring and the economy over the next six months. Some economists also attributed the weakening confidence to Americans' frustrations and worries about the implementation of the Obama administration's health care reform.

"Disgust with politicians and government policy is what's holding back expectations," said Ted Wieseman, an economist at Morgan Stanley. Less optimism among Americans could slow the holiday shopping season and weigh on economic growth. Consumer spending drives 70 percent of economic activity. But spending patterns don't always closely follow measures of confidence. Americans sometimes shop more even when they say they are less optimistic. That's what happened last month. Despite a sharp fall in confidence in October, consumers spent 0.4 percent more at retail stores and restaurants than in September. Strong auto sales accounted for about half the gain. Restaurants also reported a healthy increase in spending. Americans also spent more on furniture, electronics and clothing. There

were some signs of caution: sales at grocery stores were flat and department stores reported only slightly higher sales.

Wieseman said the report included some good news: Consumers' assessment of the current job market improved a bit, which bodes well for November's jobs report, to be released next week. Steady hiring could boost confidence in the coming months, Wieseman added, particularly if the government's health care web site is fixed and as memories of the shutdown fade. Employers added an average of 202,000 jobs from August through October, up from just 146,000 in the previous three months.

And lower gas prices have put more money in consumers' pockets. Prices fell for nine straight weeks to the lowest level in nearly two years before moving up slightly in the past two weeks. The average price for a gallon (3.8 liters) of gas nationwide Monday was \$3.28. Economic growth is expected to slow in the current October-December quarter, partly because consumer spending growth is likely to be moderate. The economy expanded at a 2.8 percent annual rate in the July-September quarter, but most economists expect it will slow to about a 2 percent rate or lower in the fourth quarter. □

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Police fire water cannon to disperse Egypt rallies

SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Black-clad Egyptian police descended on two small anti-government rallies in Cairo on Tuesday and fired water cannons to disperse them, enforcing a controversial new law restricting protests. The heavy hand fueled a backlash among secular activists and liberals who accuse the military-backed government of accelerating down a path even more authoritarian than the Hosni Mubarak era. The scenes of protesters being dragged away and beaten, with dozens arrested, pitted security forces against secular youth activists, in a new front after months of a heavy — and far bloodier — crackdown on Islamists

since the army's ouster of President Mohammed Morsi. Criticism came even from supporters of the new military-backed government, who warned that the new law will increase opposition and could push secular activists into a common cause with Islamists. The criticism presents a sharp challenge to the government: It threatens to break the loose coalition of secular and liberal politicians and revolutionary activists who gave key legitimacy to the military's July 3 ouster of Morsi, Egypt's first freely elected president. That coalition argued that the military's move, following massive anti-Morsi protests, was necessary for a democratic, secular Egypt, accusing Morsi's Muslim



Egyptian police fire water cannons to disperse a protest by secular anti-government activists in Cairo, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013, the security forces' first implementation of a controversial new law forbidding protests held without a permit from authorities.

(AP Photo/Mohammed Asad)

Brotherhood of subverting the hopes for change after Mubarak's fall in 2011. Its factions backed the military and government — or at least remained silent — when security forces in August crushed pro-Morsi

protest camps in a brutal crackdown that killed hundreds. Now discontent is growing, particularly among young secular activists who led the anti-Mubarak uprising and are already mistrustful of the

military. Many are further angered by the process of amending the Morsi-era constitution, largely done behind closed doors, because it is likely to ensure greater powers for the military and the president. □

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Prosecutor demands guilty verdict for Knox

COLLEEN BARRY

Associated Press

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — An Italian prosecutor on Tuesday demanded that an appellate court find Amanda Knox guilty of the 2007 murder of her British roommate, a killing he argued may have been rooted in arguments about cleanliness and triggered by a toilet left unflushed by the only man now in jail for the murder. Prosecutor Alessandro Crini called for 26-year sentences for Knox and Raffaele Sollecito, her co-defendant and former boyfriend, following more than 10 hours of closing arguments over two days. Knox and Sollecito deny any involve-

ment in the killing.

Crini departed from past scenarios by suggesting the crime was not so much sexually fueled — an erotic game that got out of control, as the lower court prosecutor described it — but an act of physical violence with a sexual expression. He alleged that Knox and Sollecito acted with another man in an explosion of violence sparked by tension between Knox and British student Meredith Kercher. Crini argued that Rudy Guede — a native of Ivory Coast now serving a 16-year sentence for the murder — may have inflamed tensions between Knox and Kercher after he defecated in a toilet inside

the women's apartment and didn't flush. Crini said Guede, who was friendly with young men living in a neighboring apartment, had done the same thing the previous week. "It is an absolutely disgusting and incongruous habit that he evidently had," Crini said. Testimony in previous trials had cited tensions between Kercher and Knox over the cleanliness of the house they shared with two Italian roommates. Kercher's murder in the idyllic hillside town of Perugia is getting its third trial after Italy's highest court annulled an appellate ruling overturning the 2009 guilty verdicts against Knox and Sollecito. □

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Yanukovych: Ukraine not ready to sign key EU deal



Demonstrators wave a European flag during a protest in support of Ukraine's integration with the European Union in the center of Kiev, Ukraine, Tuesday Nov. 26, 2013.

(AP Photo/Sergei Grits)

**MARIA DANILOVA
YURAS KARMANAU
Associated Press**

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych on Tuesday stood by his warning that his country was not ready to sign a key agreement with the European Union, but

said he would still attend a summit at which the signing was to take place for further talks.

Kiev announced last week it was halting efforts to integrate with the European Union, saying the economy could not afford to sacrifice trade with Russia and

would rather focus on restoring ties with Moscow. But EU officials have remained hopeful that he would change his mind in time for the meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania, which begins Thursday. And tens of thousands of Ukrainians

have taken to the streets to urge him to sign the agreement, in the largest protests in Kiev since the 2004 Orange Revolution.

Yanukovych said in a transcript of an interview with several Ukrainian television channels published on his website late Tuesday that he wished to sign the deal as soon as possible, but that the country was still too fragile economically. Ukraine is struggling to get foreign funding to plug holes in its budget and has also faced immense pressure from Russia, which has worked to derail the deal. "As soon as we reach a level that will be comfortable for us and when it answers our interests and when we agree on acceptable conditions, then we will talk about signing (the deal)," Yanukovych was quoted as saying.

At the same, Yanukovych indicated he would attend a summit in Vilnius, Lithuania that opens on Thursday for further negotiations. The announcement came as Russian President Vladimir Putin quashed claims

by top Ukrainian officials that Moscow has offered Kiev discounts for Russian natural gas in return for Kiev's refusal to sign the EU deal.

Putin also urged the EU to engage in trilateral talks with Kiev in Moscow to settle all disputes.

Meanwhile, the round-the-clock protests continued in Kiev. Several thousand protesters, including university students who ditched lectures, rallied on two central squares Tuesday night. The demonstrators were joined by Loreta Grauziniene, the speaker of the Lithuanian parliament, who said that Ukraine's future belongs with Europe.

"Lithuania believes in the right choice of the Ukrainian people," Grauziniene told the crowd. "Lithuania and Ukraine will be in a united Europe together."

"We feel ourselves to be part of Europe and now the authorities want to take this identity away from us," said Yehor Mnishek, a student from Kiev. "It's like cutting off someone's arm or head." □

Dutch Cabinet proposes bonus cap for bankers

AMSTERDAM (AP) — The Netherlands' finance minister says he plans to introduce a law that would cap bonuses in the banking sector to no more than 20 percent of total salary. In his weekly appearance on RTL television, Jeroen Dijsselbloem said looser rules may apply abroad, but "where the Netherlands is boss" the cap will be enforced. Government intervention in private-sector pay is rare,

but the Dutch banking sector is dominated by four big banks, and isn't really private. Leading retail bank ABN Amro was nationalized in 2008, while ING kept afloat in 2008-2009 with support it still hasn't fully repaid. SNS Bank was nationalized last year due to real-estate investments gone bad, and the cooperative Rabobank has itself renounced bonuses after being caught up in the Libor rate-fixing scandal. □

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Japan secrecy law stirs fear of limits on freedoms

MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's more powerful lower house of Parliament approved a state secrecy bill late Tuesday that imposes stiffer penalties on bureaucrats who leak secrets and journalists who seek them, despite criticism the government is making a heavy-handed effort to hide what it's doing and suppress press freedom.

The public is concerned because the government won't say exactly what becomes secret. Critics say the law could allow the government to withhold more information and ultimately undermine Japan's democracy.

The bill was approved after hours of delay due to protests by opposition lawmakers. The ruling block and its supporters hope the weaker upper house will pass the legislation next month.

The ruling party says the law is needed to encourage the United States and other allies to share national security information with Japan. With the creation of

a U.S.-style National Security Council in his office, it is part of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's efforts to strengthen Japan's role in global security and create a more authoritarian government at home.

"This law is designed to protect the safety of the people," Abe said, promising to relieve citizens' concerns through further parliamentary debate.

The bill allows heads of ministries and agencies to classify 23 vaguely worded types of information related to defense, diplomacy, counterintelligence and counterterrorism, almost indefinitely.

Critics say it might sway authorities to withhold more information about nuclear power plants, arguing they could become terrorist targets. Or they warn that officials may refuse to disclose key elements of free trade talks to protect concessions that would make Tokyo or a partner look bad.

The move is welcomed by the United States, which wants a stronger Japan to counter China's military

rise, but raises fears in Japan that the country could be edging back toward its militaristic past, when authorities severely restrained free speech.

Some experts say the legislation would ease the way

for Abe's drive to revise Japan's U.S.-drafted pacifist constitution to give more power to the government and stress civil duties over basic human rights.

"My biggest concern is that it would be more dif-

radiation data crucial to the evacuation and health of residents in case of another nuclear crisis. Opponents said that Tuesday's vote despite unanimous opposition by the seven local officials invited to the



A spectator holds a sign against a state secrecy law at parliament, in Tokyo Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013. The sign held by the spectator reads: "Information is for people. It is rough-and-ready to deliberate at the Diet."

(AP Photo/Kyodo News)

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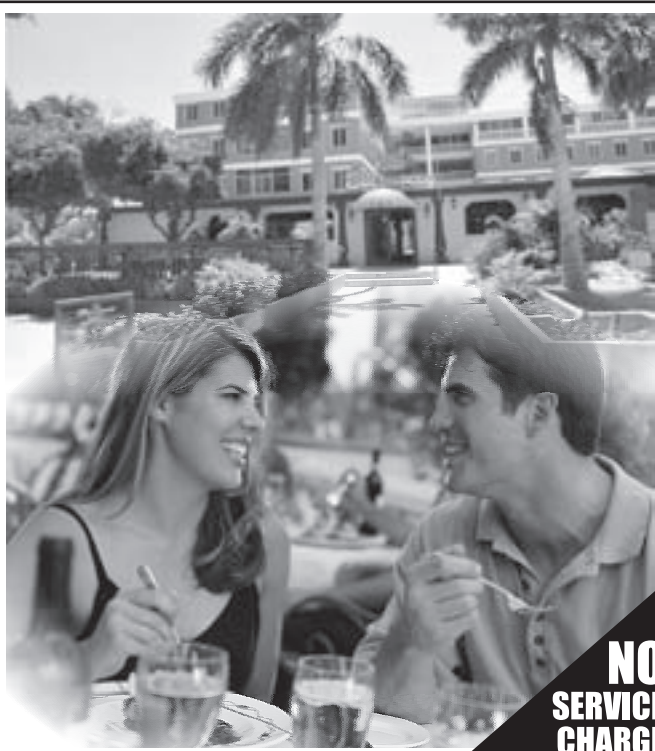
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ficult for the people to see the government's decision-making process," said Kyouji Yanagisawa, a former top defense official who was in charge of national security in the Prime Minister's Office in 2004-2009. "That means we can't check how or where the government made mistakes, or help the government make a wise decision."

At a public hearing in Fukushima on Monday, the only one held before the vote, lawyer Hiroyasu Maki said the bill's definition of secrets is so vague and broad that it could easily be expanded to include

hearing already shows the Abe government's high-handed approach.

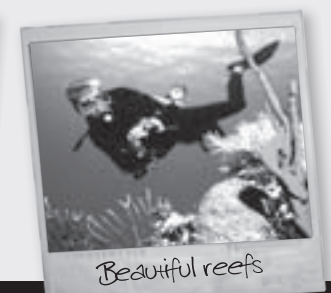
Ruling Liberal Democratic Party lawmakers say Washington has repeatedly said it feels insecure about sharing top-secret information with Japan due to its lack of legal protection for secrets. The U.S. is worried about leaks to China, they say. "(The bill) is by all means necessary to step up Japan's intelligence level. Many other countries already have legal frameworks like this but Japan does not," said Nobutaka Machimura, a senior ruling lawmaker and head of the party's secrecy bill team. □

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France pushing to punish clients for prostitution

SYLVIE CORBET
Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — France's government is pushing one of Europe's toughest laws against prostitution and sex trafficking, and other countries are watching closely. Advocates hope that a draft French law going to parliament Wednesday will help change long-held attitudes toward the world's oldest profession — by punishing the customer and protecting the prostitute. The bill, however, is facing resistance in a country with a libertine reputation and a Mediterranean macho streak, and has prompted petitions defending those who buy sex. Signatories include screen icon Catherine Deneuve —who played a prostitute in the cult film "Belle de Jour" — and crooner Charles Aznavour. Prostitution is currently legal in France, but brothels, pimping and soliciting in public are illegal. The bill has prompted debate about sex and sexism in France, where former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn is facing charges of aggravated pimping. He denies wrongdoing, though his lawyer has defended Strauss-Kahn's free-wheeling sex life. It has also called attention to the evolution of the sex business, as the number of foreign prostitutes, espe-

cially from Asia and eastern Europe, has soared in recent years. The proposed law would introduce a 1,500-euro (\$2,000) fine —rising to 3,000-euro at the second offense— for the clients of prostitutes. They could also be forced to attend classes aimed at highlighting the harms of prostitution. The bill aims to decriminalize the estimated 40,000 prostitutes in France, by scrapping a 2003 law that bans soliciting on the streets, and making it easier for foreign prostitutes to remain legally in France if they enter a process to get out of prostitution. One of the bill's authors, Maud Olivier, says it's about "getting rid the consequence of unequal and archaic relationships between men and women." Other countries such as Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands, where brothels are legal, are especially interested in the French experience. "If France moves, that could be the turning point for other European countries," said Gregoire Thery, secretary-general of the Mouvement du Nid, an organization which says it helps 5,000 prostitutes in France each year. The proposed law —written by a group of lawmakers from both right and left and backed by the Socialist government— follows the

example of Sweden, which passed similar legislation in 1999. A report commissioned by the Swedish government showed that the number of people involved in street prostitution in Sweden's three largest cities dropped

creased. The Netherlands went the other way, legalizing prostitution in 2000. But the policy has come in for criticism for playing into the hands of criminals and human traffickers who exploit women. The gov-

empower prostitutes. "The current law is not on our side so we keep being trapped in that system, and the client knows that, he plays with that. When we hear about 'prostitution by choice,' I think that it is still prostitution as violence



French sex workers demonstrate in front of French Assembly in Paris, against a proposal to penalize clients caught in the act of soliciting a prostitute. France's government is pushing one of Europe's toughest laws against prostitution and sex trafficking, and other countries are watching closely.

(AP Photo/Christophe Ena)

from around 730 in 1999 to 300-430 a year in the 10 years after that. At the same time, street prostitution in neighboring Norway and Denmark in-

ernment is now aiming to crack down on human trafficking by tightening laws. Supporters of the French draft law argue that it could reduce sex trafficking and

toward women, and we cannot keep tolerating that violence anymore," said Rosen Hicher, 57, who was a prostitute from 1988 to 2009. □

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Ruling party wins Honduran presidential race

ALBERTO ARCE
Associated Press
TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — Honduran voters have given the ruling National Party four more years in the presidency even though crime worsened and poverty and unemployment increased in this poor nation under outgoing President Porfirio Lobo. Juan Orlando Hernandez, 45, the party's candidate who campaigned on a law-and-order platform, has all but won the hotly contested presidential race, electoral authorities said late Monday in declaring his lead "irreversible." Even before the announcement, his main competitor,

Xiomara Castro, had challenged the official returns and claimed victory for herself. Her husband, former President Manuel Zelaya, who was ousted in a 2009 coup, said earlier they wouldn't accept the results, but the campaign hasn't spoken since the court all but declared Hernandez the winner. Both the streets and the campaigns remained quiet on Tuesday, as Hernandez issued a press release naming his transition team. With about 68 percent of the votes counted from Sunday's election, Hernandez had 34 percent to 29 percent for Castro in an eight-candidate field.

"It's not the final result, but it's an irreversible trend," tribunal spokeswoman Lourdes Rosales said. Hernandez and Castro had entered the election neck-and-neck in opinion polls, and there were fears a disputed vote could bring protests and more instability. International observers, including U.S. Ambassador Lisa Kubiske, had congratulated Hondurans on a peaceful vote with high turnout and said the vote and the count appeared to transparent. Election observers for both the European Union and Organization of American States issued statements Tuesday confirming the findings.

Hernandez will likely face a divided Congress, whose 128 members were also elected Sunday. As a result, the political situation is unlikely to change dramatically in this failing state of 8.5 million people, which is home to the world's highest homicide rate. It has been a focal point for U.S. drug enforcement efforts as the transit point for much of the South American cocaine heading to the U.S. More than half of the country lives in poverty, and the number working for less than the minimum wage of \$350 a month has grown from 28 percent in 2008 to 43 percent today. □

EU blacklists 3 nations over illegal fishing

RAF CASERT
Associated Press
BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union's fisheries chief wants trade measures imposed against Belize, Cambodia and Guinea for allegedly refusing to curb illegal fishing. And in a warning to a big fisheries nation, EU Fisheries Commissioner Maria Damanaki on Tuesday told South Korea to change its ways or end up on the blacklist too. Environmental groups welcomed the moves and the Pew Charitable Trusts said it showed the 28-country EU "is serious about combatting illegal fishing." Damanaki said the three countries continued with illegal practices even after being warned last year. The EU says illegal and unregulated fishing accounts for at least 15 percent of the global value of catches.

And a conservative EU estimate values the theft from the oceans at 10 billion euros (\$13.5 billion) a year. Other studies put it at almost twice that. A study by the Oceana group said that sharks, famed for their fin soup, topped the ranks with some 80 percent of illegal catches. Bluefin tuna, which is prized the world over for its fine, fatty meat in sushi dishes, has also been hit hard.

Altogether, illegal fishing accounts for a sizable part of the depletion of the world's oceans. As a result, Damanaki said she had "no other choice" but to put the three nations up for stiff penalties given "the critical state of many fish stocks." □

Key West to Cuba flights struggle to take off

CHRISTINE ARMARIO
Associated Press
HAVANA, Cuba/KEY WEST, Florida (AP) — Key West gained approval two years ago to begin operating flights to and from Cuba that had long been stifled by a ban on most U.S. travel to the island. Since then, not a single plane has taken off for Cuba from this southernmost Florida outpost, closer to Havana than to Miami. Charter flight companies and booking agencies say they've struggled to get all the required approvals from U.S. and Cuban authorities. One of the charter companies that initially was taking part in the airport's application has gone out of business. Another stopped service to Florida altogether. "Several organizations have approached us, including airlines, and said, 'If you get status as a port of entry for Cuba, we sure are interested in flying to Cuba,'" Key West International Airport director Peter Horton said. "And so far all

of those — and there are at least four that I can remember offhand — have not been successful." Decades ago, Key West residents could fly to Cuba for lunch and be back in time for dinner. It's only a short flight across

Protection to process 10 passengers and crew flying in from Cuba at any one time. The airport is working on an expansion that would eventually allow it to process about 70. "If you would have a 30-seater, or a 25-seater

a long and intertwined history. So when President Barack Obama announced in 2011 that he was directing agencies to allow all U.S. international airports to apply to allow licensed charters to operate Cuba flights, Key West was



Passengers arrive at the Key West International Airport in Key West, Fla. The airport and charter operators have still not sent a plane to Cuba, more than two years after Key West was granted port of entry status. Key West and Cuba have a long and intertwined history.

(AP Photo/Christine Armario)

the Florida Straits, once crisscrossed regularly. But that hasn't happened since 1960. There's the issue of airport capacity: Currently, Key West is only approved by U.S. Customs and Border

that could do flights, that could be a profitable operation," said John Cabanas, former president of C&T Charters, which initially wanted to do the flights but has since closed. Key West and Cuba have

among the first to apply. There are now 19 U.S. airports authorized to provide flights to the Caribbean nation, which has had limited diplomatic relations with the U.S. since shortly after the 1959 revolution. □



At the Links at Divi Aruba: 2013 Rotary Golf Tournament Raises Funds for Charity

EAGLE BEACH - Members of the Rotary International Club of Aruba announced the start of the annual Rotary Golf Tournament, a sold-out event at the Links at Divi Aruba, on Saturday. The tournament collected funds for the local not-for-profit foundations such as Sonrisa, dedicated to the welfare of individuals with special needs and Social Fonds Colegio Arubano, an organization within the lo-



an attractive raffle over outstanding, gourmet barbecue dinner, prepared by the Divi culinary brigade directed by executive chef Gerard Coste.

Topcar & Divi Resorts offered a Nissan Juke, for a Hole-in-One on hole #5, and Ultimate Automobiles and Divi Resorts offers a Mini Cooper, for a Hole-in-One on hole #7. Pepia Est offered the Nearest to the Pin, on holes #5 & #7,

cal high-school, caring for students with lesser means, reports Ravee Boolchand, on the organizing committee.

The shotgun-start of the four-man scramble at 12:30pm heralded an excellent day of golf which culminated with an award ceremony and prizes at 6:30pm, accompanied by



a bottle of French Nicolas Feuillatte Champagne. The tournament could not have been as successful as it was without the remarkable help of sponsors donating prizes for the three top winning teams, namely Digicel, AMC Unicon and Boolchand.

Other sponsors of the event were the Aruba Airport Authority, Aruba Aloe, Tropical Bottling, and the Divi



Group, with 9 golf holes sponsored by Caribbean Overseas, CMB, Salt & Pepper, Atlas, New India Assurance, Fatum, Aruba Bank, RBC, Divi Resorts and Jolly Holdings, and raffle sponsors with attractive gifts from Boolchand's, Pearl Gems, Touch of Gold, Screaming Eagle, Flying Fishbone, Amadeus, Pandora, Banjolux, RIU, Cuba's Cookin', Wema, Paradera

Park Apartments, Kooyman, Renaissance Resorts, Chalet Suisse, Pepia Est, Que Pasa, and Marandi restaurants, with food & beverage generously orchestrated with the help of Compra, Tropical Bottling, Aruba Trading Company, Romar Trading and Divi Resorts.

Continued on page 27



At La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino: Chit Chat Café hosts colorful Carnival-themed luncheon!

EAGLE BEACH - The Recreation Department of La Cabana Beach Resort & Casino followed island tradition, and heralded the arrival of Carnival season

in November, marking the much-anticipated beginning of the island's 60th annual celebration with a themed lunch at the Chit Chat Cafe.

All resort employees were invited to enjoy their lunch break in the resort cafeteria with built-in entertainment, music, costumes and decorations. Additional invited dignitaries included the officials of the Aruba Carnival foundation with the venerated Tecla, the mother of Aruba's Carnival, at the helm.

Food was appropriately inspired with delicious Sacos produced by the kitchen. Aruba's typical Carnival street food comes wrapped in a brown paper bag, containing hot Johnny cakes, fried banana,

chicken, ribs and potato wedges, which were actually put in a saco to go, the exact same way they are sold on the street on Carnival day!

Pictured here, the fun they have had at the Chit Chat Cafe with the recreation department delivering a fantastic theme luncheon for November! □



Loyal visitors honored by ATA at the Marriott Vacation Club

PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two very nice couples whom are loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba, at the Marriott Ocean Club, as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of

Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Alfred and Linda De Palma of Monmouth Beach, New Jersey, and James and Ann Pappas of Mequen, Wisconsin. Both couples are loyal members of the Marriott Vacation Club and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the

climate, beaches, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home, the employees at the Marriott are like a family to them and the Resort is their home away from home. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Lilian Britten and Erwin Noguera, GM at the Marriott Vacation Club. □

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Second Annual Open Aruban Sailing Championships Set Sail Thursday!



PALM BEACH - This upcoming Thursday, November 28th is the starting date of the second annual OAK sailing races. For 4 days straight, sailing competitions will be held from morning till afternoon off the coast of Aruba's stunning beaches. Are you a sailing fan, or just ready to

relax and enjoy the day? You can sit back, have a drink and watch the games commence, ending every competition day with a delicious beach BBQ. Last year's successful first OAK, Open Arubaanse Kampioenschappen, brought many surprising winners, and the excitement and

expectations are very high. With at least 30 different international catamarans, both small and big, the fleet and competition will be bigger, challenging last years' trophy winners even more. Make sure to come and watch international sailing champions Thijs Visser (world champion Formu-

la 18), Thierry Schmitter (silver medallist London) and David Loyd (European and World champion Dart 18). Starting Thursday with competitions along the coast of Malmok beach, in front of Aruba Watersport Center, the 4-day event will end with a bang at Aruba Watersports Center this Sun-

day, where all the winners will receive their prizes at an official award ceremony. It will be an excitement-filled event, open to sailors, family, friends. For more information on the competition locations, and the best views of the catamarans, visit www.arubabeachcats.com. □



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Bruins end streak against Penguins in OT win

The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Torey Krug scored 34 seconds into overtime as the Boston Bruins beat Pittsburgh 4-3 on Monday to end a seven-game, regular-season losing streak to the Penguins in a matchup of the Eastern Conference's top two teams.

NHL Capsules

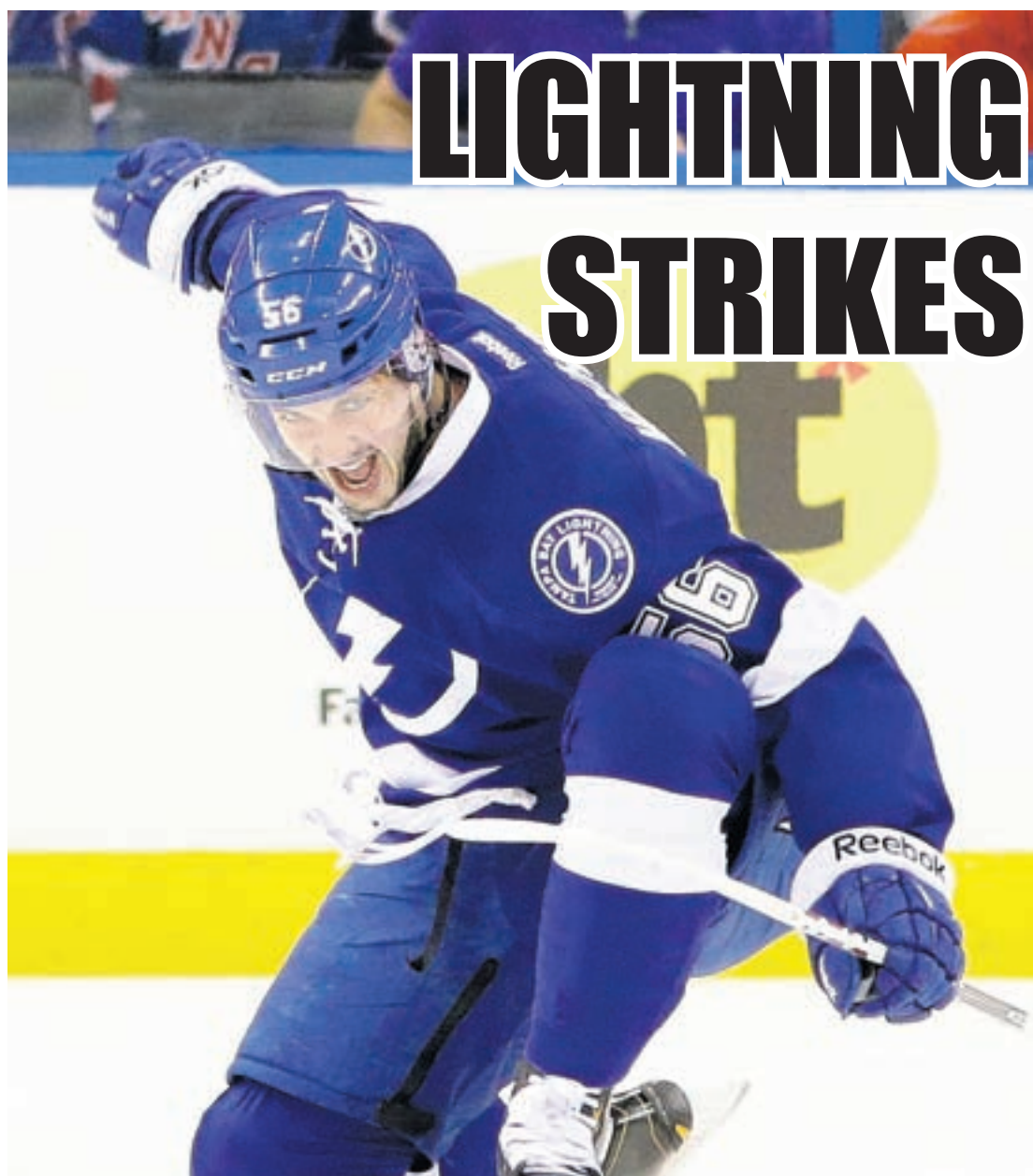
Pittsburgh captain Sidney Crosby had scored with 0.3 seconds left in regulation to tie it.

Loui Eriksson and Reilly Smith scored first-period goals, and Zdeno Chara made it 3-2 with 5:15 left in regulation for the conference-leading Bruins, who are 8-2-1 in their last 11 games. Tuukka Rask made 28 saves for Boston, which beat the Penguins for the first time since December 2011.

James Neal scored the first two goals for Pittsburgh, and Marc-Andre Fleury made 20 saves. The Penguins, playing their third game in five days, lost for the sixth time in 10 games.

PANTHERS 3, FLYERS 1

SUNRISE, Florida (AP) — Sean Bergenheim scored his first two goals in 18 months and Tim Thomas made 38 saves to lift Flori-



Tampa Bay Lightning right winger Nikita Kucherov, of Russia, celebrates his goal against the New York Rangers during the first period of an NHL hockey game Monday, Nov. 25, 2013, in Tampa, Fla. Associated Press

da over Philadelphia.

It was the first time Bergenheim scored since March 20, 2012. He missed last season due to injury and was playing his 10th game this season.

Erik Gudbranson also scored for Florida, his first of the season.

Wayne Simmonds scored for the Flyers, and Steve Mason stopped 28 shots.

The Panthers have won three of five games and evened the season series against the Flyers at a game apiece.

Philadelphia lost for the first time in four games and the second time in eight. The Flyers failed to get a point for the first time in eight games.

LIGHTNING 5, RANGERS 0

TAMPA, Florida (AP) — Martin St. Louis had two goals and an assist after being honored before the game as Tampa Bay stopped a four-game losing streak by beating the New York Rangers.

St. Louis received a silver stick and other gifts during a ceremony for playing in his 1,000th NHL game last Tuesday at Los Angeles.

Continued on Page 21

No Vonn on new course; may return in Lake Louise

PAT GRAHAM
AP Sports Writer

BEAVER CREEK, Colorado (AP) — U.S. women's head coach Alex Hoedlmoser remains hopeful that Lindsey Vonn's ailing right knee will be ready for a return in Lake Louise, Alberta.

Hoedlmoser said Tuesday that Vonn's presence in the starting gate in Lake Louise on Dec. 6 is "up to

her. She's the only one who knows how her knee feels."

The four-time overall World Cup champion was supposed to make her return this week from a serious knee injury she suffered in a crash last February.

After hurting her knee again in a training mishap last week — she wiped out going from sunshine into shade — Vonn will sit this

In this Dec. 7, 2011 file photo, Lindsey Vonn kneels down in front of the podium after winning the women's World Cup Super G ski competition in Beaver Creek, Colo.

Associated Press

week out.

The competition continues as the rest of the field receives their first glance at the steep course in a training run Tuesday. □



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Manny Pacquiao says he is borrowing to give typhoon aid

OLIVER TEVES

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —

Despite returning like a hero from beating Brandon Rios over the weekend, Manny Pacquiao said Tuesday he has no money to keep his promise to help typhoon victims because Philippine revenue authorities have frozen his bank accounts.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue says Pacquiao hasn't proved he paid taxes in 2008-2009. It has assessed that Pacquiao, once one of the world's highest paid athletes, owed 2.2 billion pesos (\$50 million) in back taxes as of July.

Pacquiao, the wealthiest member of the Philippine Congress, said Tuesday he borrowed over 1 million pesos (\$22,700) to purchase relief supplies before his fight Sunday with Rios

in Macau and will borrow more to keep his word to typhoon victims. Pacquiao said he plans to provide aid to more than 10,000 families. Fierce winds and tsunami-like storm surges from Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest typhoons on record, demolished entire communities and killed over 5,200 people when it ploughed through the central Philippines. More than 1,600 are missing.

Pacquiao said he paid taxes in the United States following his victories against Ricky Hatton and Oscar de la Hoya and that a treaty prevents double taxation. A criminal case was dropped by prosecutors for alleged unpaid taxes in 2010, but the revenue authorities' tax claims for the 2008-2009 are still pending. "I appeal to them to re-

move the garnishment so that I can move and pay for my staff's salaries," Pacquiao told reporters in his southern hometown of General Santos city. "I am not a criminal or a thief." Pacquiao said if he had not paid the right taxes in the United States, he would have been arrested during one of his visits there.

"The money that was garnished by (the Bureau of Internal Revenue) is not stolen," he said. "This came from all of the punches, beatings, blood and sweat that I endured in the ring." He said the revenue agency's claims that he earned more than what he actually did were baseless.

Revenue Commissioner Kim Henares, however, said that the only proof Pacquiao has given of his tax payments was a letter from



In this Sunday, Nov. 24, 2013 file photo, Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines celebrates after winning his WBO international welterweight title fight against Brandon Rios of the United States in Macau.

Associated Press

promoter Top Rank and HBO of the taxes he has paid to the United States, but nothing from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

"That is self-serving and a mere scrap of paper," she said. "What he can do is go to the IRS, ask IRS to certify this copy (of his tax payments) as a true copy. We

have been waiting for that for two years."

She said of 22 banks her agency has ordered to report on Pacquiao's accounts, only two said they held deposits for Pacquiao and that the total was only 1.1 million pesos (\$25,200), which is now covered by the garnish. □

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NFL Roundup

Kaepernick, 49ers dominate Redskins, RG3 27-6

JOSEPH WHITE

AP Sports Writer

LANDOVER, Maryland

(AP) — San Francisco quarterback Colin Kaepernick clearly outperformed his Washington counterpart Robert Griffin III as the 49ers broke a two-game losing streak with a 27-6 win Monday over the Redskins.

Kaepernick completed 15 of 24 passes for 235 yards — the first time in five games he's topped 200 yards — with three touchdowns and no interceptions.

The Redskins bottled up Frank Gore (13 carries, 31 yards), essentially daring Kaepernick to throw the ball, and the QB responded by showing some vet-



Washington Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III is knocked to the turf by San Francisco 49ers tight end Demarcus Dobbs, front, and another defender during the second half of an NFL football game in Landover, Md., Monday, Nov. 25, 2013. Associated Press

threw his 11th interception Monday night, more than twice the number he had all last season.

He completed 17 of 27 passes for 127 yards and was sacked four times, and Washington tallied only 190 total yards. RG3's throws were off-target, and the Redskins were again the victim of questionable clock management, including a timeout that was called while the clock was already stopped on a hurry-up drive in the final minute of the first half. The 49ers led 10-6 at the half, and the Redskins had their best chance to take the lead when they took over in San Francisco territory after a fumble on the opening drive of the third quarter. But, on a fourth-and-2 at the 41, Washington gave the ball to backup tailback Roy Helu, who was stopped short of the first down. The 49ers took over and drove for a score that gave them a double-digit lead for good, with Kaepernick and Boldin hurdling into each other for a celebratory chest-bump after the 6-yard touchdown pass.

There would be no such celebrations for Griffin, who took some flak last week from teammate Santana Moss for not taking enough responsibility for mistakes. There's plenty of blame to go around for everyone after the game, including some for coach Mike Shanahan, whose future is unclear as his team heads for a third last-place finish in his four years in Washington.

Griffin's interception came on the final play of the first quarter, when he unwisely unloaded while being decked by Aldon Smith. Griffin rolled over onto his stomach and lay there for several seconds. He wasn't injured, but perhaps he was mulling over a quarter in which he went 1 for 6 for minus-1 yard and a pick — in a rare home game in which no one was chanting "R-G-3!"

eran-like chemistry with veteran Anquan Boldin. Boldin finished with five catches for 94 yards and two touchdowns — a 19-yard grab at the pylon in the first quarter and a 6-yard, wide-open-in-the-end-zone reception in the third. Vernon Davis also had a touchdown catch for the 49ers (7-4), who are tied for second with the Arizona Cardinals in the NFC West and are three games back of the Seattle Seahawks with five to play. A loss would've put the defending NFC champions in trouble in their quest to return to the playoffs, but they're nowhere as bad off as the Redskins (3-8), who have dropped three straight and sit alone in last place in the NFC East a year after a late-season run that won the division. Kaepernick and Griffin seemed poised to take the quarterback position to a new dimension last season when they wowed the NFL with their mobility when running zone-read and play-action. But defenses have adjusted, and the two QBs' stats have tumbled accordingly when they've been forced to throw in conventional drop-back situations. Griffin's fall has been more precipitous. He

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Ginobili scores 16, leads Spurs over Pelicans

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Manu Ginobili had 16 points to lead seven players in double figures as the San Antonio Spurs beat the New Orleans Pelicans 112-93 on Monday for their 11th straight victory.

Tony Parker had 14 points and seven assists, Tiago Splitter added 11 points and Tim Duncan had 10 points for San Antonio (13-1). Reserves Marco Belinelli had 14 points, Boris Diaw added 13 points and Patty Mills 12 to keep the Spurs undefeated at home.

Ryan Anderson had 17 points, Tyreke Evans and Jrue Holiday each added 12 points and Anthony Davis had 10 for New Orleans (6-7). The Pelicans, who have lost six straight in San Antonio, had a three-game winning streak snapped.

TRAIL BLAZERS 102, KNICKS 91

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) — LaMarcus Aldridge had 18 points and 14 rebounds for his seventh double-dou-

ble this season as the Trail Blazers beat the slumping Knicks for their 11th straight victory.

Nicolas Batum had 23 points, seven rebounds and six assists for the Blazers, who are riding their longest winning streak since they won 13 straight in December 2007.

The Knicks were headed the opposite direction with six straight losses. Carmelo Anthony had 34 points and 15 rebounds.

The Blazers (13-2) were without guard Mo Williams, who was serving a one-game suspension without pay for his role in a scuffle during Saturday night's 113-101 victory at Golden State.

JAZZ 89, BULLS 83

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Trey Burke made a key 3-pointer to help the Jazz outlast Chicago in overtime — the Bulls' first game since learning Derrick Rose would again be lost for the season. Burke, a rookie finally enjoying extensive playing

time after spending most of the season recovering from finger surgery, had 14 points and six assists. He also had five turnovers and shot 5 for 17 but was on the court in clutch time directing the Jazz to their second win of the season.

Carlos Boozer had 26 points and 16 rebounds and Luol Deng added 24 points for the Bulls, who were exhausted in their fourth game in five nights and still processing the loss of Rose for the season.

Marvin Williams had 17 points and Gordon Hayward and Richard Jefferson each had 15 as the Jazz scored the first seven points of overtime.

PACERS 98, TIMBERWOLVES 84

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — George Hill scored a season-high 26 points, and Paul George had 11 of his 26 points during the decisive run, leading the Pacers to a victory over Minnesota.



San Antonio Spurs' Manu Ginobili (20), of Argentina, drives around New Orleans Pelicans' Jason Smith (14) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Nov. 25, 2013, in San Antonio. San Antonio won 112-93.

Associated Press

Indiana has won four straight since losing at Chicago, is 13-1 for the first time in franchise history and remained perfect in eight home games this season.

The Timberwolves (8-8) shot just 32.6 percent from the field and was held to a season-low point total.

Kevin Love finished with 20 points and 17 rebounds. CELTICS 96, BOBCATS 86 CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Jordan Crawford had 21 points and reserve Gerald Wallace added a season-high 17 points as the Celtics beat the Bobcats for their second straight victory. □

NHL Capsules

Continued from front

Ben Bishop had 37 saves for the Lightning. Nikita Kucherov scored of the first shift of his first NHL game, and Teddy Purcell added a pair of goals to complete the Tampa Bay scoring.

The Rangers had their six-game, road-winning streak snapped. It was one short of matching the team record. New York won seven straight road games in 1935 and 1978.

BLUES 3, WILD 0

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Alexander Steen scored twice, and Jaroslav Halak made 22 saves to lead St. Louis over Minnesota.

Steen has 19 goals this season, one behind Washington's Alex Ovechkin for the NHL lead.

Vladimir Sobotka also scored for the Blues, who are 9-1-1 in their last 11 and 12-2-1 in the last 15. They have won six straight against Minnesota by a combined 20-7.

The Wild were shut out for the first time this season and lost only their second game in the last eight. Minnesota (15-6-4) is still off to its best start with 34 points in its first 25 games.

Halak improved to 13-3-2 with his third successive



New York Rangers right wing Ryan Callahan (24) leaps into the air in an attempt to screen Tampa Bay Lightning goalie Ben Bishop (30) during the first period of an NHL hockey game Monday, Nov. 25, 2013, in Tampa, Fla. Defending for Tampa Bay is Victor Hedman (77), of Sweden.

Associated Press

win. He earned his second shutout of the season and 27th of his NHL career.

JETS 3, DEVILS 1

NEWARK, New Jersey (AP) — Ondrej Pavelec made

25 saves in earning his 100th NHL win as Winnipeg ended a four-game losing streak by beating New Jersey.

Mark Scheifele and Evander Kane scored in the first two periods as the Jets opened a season-high, six-game road trip by completing a two-game, season-series sweep of the Devils, who lost their second straight game.

Devin Setoguchi scored into an empty net in the final minute.

Pavelec was less than 10 minutes from his second shutout of the season when Patrik Elias deflected a shot from the point by Andy Greene past him. □

Weak Blood

By: Dr. Carlos Viana

People in the same family are related by blood and "blood is thicker than water" says that family ("blood") relations are more important than relations with friends. "Blood is thicker than water" compares the thickness of blood (family relationship) to the thickness of water (friendships) and says that our family relations are more important ("thicker") than all others.

Interestingly, there are no quotations on "weak blood", as in not enough red blood cells, also known as anemia. One of the more common blood disorders, anemia, occurs when the number of healthy red blood cells decreases in the body. The disc-shaped red blood cells contain hemoglobin, a unique molecule that carries oxygen to the body's tissues.

The most common sign of anemia is mild paleness of the skin, along with decreased pinkness of the lips, the lining of the eyelids, and the nail beds. Other common signs of anemia may include: irritability, fatigue, dizziness, lightheadedness, and a rapid heartbeat. Depending on the condition causing the anemia, other signs and symptoms may occur, such as jaundice (yellow-tinged skin), dark tea-colored urine, easy bruising or bleeding, and enlargement of the spleen or liver.

Unfortunately, many doctors don't dis-

cover anemia until they run blood tests as part of a routine physical examination. A complete blood count may indicate that there are fewer red blood cells than normal. Other diagnostic tests may include a blood smear which can sometimes indicate the cause of the anemia. When your blood tests indicate that the total serum iron and ferritin levels, which help determine whether your anemia is due to iron deficiency is on the low side, most doctors will prescribe iron supplementation. This is a mistake that only gives you constipation.

Regrettably, many doctors do not appreciate that your blood has a narrow range of iron that it can use to help produce red blood cells. Correctly, a lack of iron can cause anemia. Similarly, too much iron also causes what looks like anemia. The immediate reaction of doctors to prescribe iron can be dangerous!

Hemoglobin is not iron! Unfortunately physicians prescribe iron to anemic people who test with low hemoglobin. Yes, the patients are anemic, but the iron can be collecting in storage instead of going into hemoglobin. These people are iron-overloaded. Many African decedents have this condition. They need iron removed despite the anemia. The anemia should be treated with B vitamins,

especially B12, B6 and folic acid. However, B vitamins should always be taken as a complete B complex, with specific B vitamins added on an individual basis by a trained Clinical Nutritionist. Blood banks especially seem to believe that hemoglobin and iron are the same. They have prepared lists of high iron foods to give out to donors with low hemoglobin. They invariably tell these people: "Your iron is low."

Many of our grassroots clinic patients who are anemic have type A blood. People with type A blood have a deficiency in stomach acid that prevents them from absorbing the iron from their food. The other nutritional disaster is milk products. Milk does no body good, but for the vast majority of the world's people it is a public health disaster. No other animal drinks cow's milk, not even calves once they are weaned. The late Dr. Benjamin Spock, the U.S.'s leading authority on child care, spoke out against feeding "cow's glue" to children, saying it can cause anemia, allergies, and diabetes and in the long term, will set kids up for obesity and heart disease, the number one cause of death of children in the United States.

Countless Arubans and Americans can trace our family tree to Portuguese, Spanish, Italian and Greek roots. Many decedents from Mediterranean



have been diagnosed with "weak blood" do not settle for iron supplements, it could be killing you faster. Come in for a consultation to find the root cause of your anemia.

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CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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countries have inherited Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency. The red blood cells of people with this condition either do not make enough of the enzyme G6PD or the enzyme that is produced is abnormal and does not work well. When someone born with the deficiency has an infection, takes any sulfa medicine, is exposed to the smell of camphor, or eats fava beans the body's red blood cells suffer extra stress. Without adequate G6PD to protect them, many red blood cells are destroyed prematurely. Iron supplementation will not help; it hurts by stressing the red blood cells more. There is a simple blood test to check if you have this many times, undetected condition.

Get The Point! I have four close friends that I would choose over my siblings in a heartbeat. There is a Venezuelan proverb that says "Blood is inherited and virtue is acquired". The blood type A, or those of you who have inherited iron overload or G6PD deficiency can acquire the virtue of health by learning how to be your best doctor. If you

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U.N. advances Internet privacy resolution

PETER JAMES SPIELMANN

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

The U.N. General Assembly's human rights committee on Tuesday unanimously adopted a resolution sponsored by Brazil and Germany to protect the right to privacy against unlawful surveillance, following months of reports about U.S. eavesdropping abroad.

The symbolic resolution, which seeks to extend personal privacy rights to all people, followed a series of disclosures of U.S. eavesdropping on foreign leaders, including Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, that surprised and angered allies.

Brazil's Ambassador Antonio de Aguiar Patriota said the resolution "establishes for the first time that human rights should prevail irrespective of the medium, and therefore need to be protected online and offline." The resolution expresses deep concern at "the negative impact" that such surveillance, "in particular when carried out on a mass scale, may have on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights."

German Ambassador Peter Wittig asked, "Is the human right to privacy still protected in our digital world? And should everything that is technologically feasible, be allowed?"

The consensus adoption of the resolution means it will also unanimously pass the whole 193-member General Assembly in December. General Assembly resolutions aren't legally binding but reflect world opinion and carry political weight. The United States did not fight the measure after it engaged in lobbying last week with Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, which comprise the "Five Eyes" intelligence-sharing group, to dilute some of the draft resolution's language.

The key compromise dropped the contention that the domestic and international interception and collection of communications and personal data, "in particular massive surveillance," may constitute a human rights violation.

U.S. delegate Elizabeth Cousens told the committee that the United States welcomed Brazil and Germany's sponsorship of the resolution and was pleased to support "privacy rights and the right to freedom of expression."

The draft resolution directs the U.N. human rights chief to report to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly on the protection and promotion of privacy "in the context of domestic and extraterritorial surveillance ... including on a mass scale."



In a Monday, Nov. 18, 2013 photo, German Chancellor Angela Merkel delivers a speech at the German parliament Bundestag in Berlin in which she said the relationship between Germany and the United States as well as the future of a transatlantic free trade agreement have been "put to the test" by allegations of massive spying by the U.S. National Security Agency.

Associated Press

Last week, five major human rights and privacy groups — Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, The Electronic Frontier Foundation, Access and Privacy International — said this will guarantee that the privacy issue stays on the front burner at the United Nations.

Human Rights Watch's general counsel, Dina PoKempner, said Tuesday that though the resolution was "watered down" it is still a "vital first step toward stigmatizing indiscriminate global surveillance as a wide-scale violation of hu-

man rights."

The director of the human rights program at the American Civil Liberties Union, Jamil Dakwar, said, "Yet again, the U.S. is paying lip service to human rights when it comes to holding intelligence services accountable overseas. It is regrettable that the U.S. is investing time to circumvent the universal human right to privacy rather than setting a new course by ending dragnet surveillance." The U.S. has been trying to calm tensions with Brazil and Germany over the reported spying.

Rousseff canceled a state visit to Washington after classified documents leaked by former National Security Agency analyst Edward Snowden showed that the NSA hacked the computer network of Brazil's state-run oil company Petrobras and scooped up data on emails and telephone calls flowing through the country.

Merkel and other European leaders expressed anger after reports that the NSA allegedly monitored Merkel's cellphone and swept up millions of French telephone records. □

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Barnes & Noble swings to 2Q profit

MAE ANDERSON
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Book retailer Barnes & Noble returned to a profit in the fiscal second quarter as cost cuts offset lower sales. The company's sales missed expectations, however, and its shares fell 6 percent in midday trading. The report comes as the crucial holiday season

when CEO William Lynch left the company, which has not named a replacement. It introduced a new non-tablet e-book reader, a \$119 Nook GlowLight, for the holidays. Michael P. Huseby, president of Barnes & Noble and CEO of Nook Media, said the company is committed to its devices, since standalone devices have a higher attachment

selling content." Net income for the three months ended Oct. 26 totaled \$13.2 million, or 15 cents per share. That compares with a loss of \$501,000, or 7 cents per share, last year. Revenue fell 8 percent to \$1.73 billion from \$1.88 billion last year. Analysts expected a loss of 3 cents per share on revenue of \$1.76



A Barnes & Noble bookstore is photographed in Orlando, Fla. On Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013, Barnes & Noble released positive quarterly financial results.

(AP Photo/John Raoux)

kicks off, when retailers can make up to 40 percent of their annual revenue. Barnes & Noble has been evaluating its strategy for its Nook e-book reader after years of investing heavily in the business and developing a color tablet, the Nook HD+, that has faced tough competition from Amazon's Kindle and the Apple iPad. Things have been in flux since June

rate than apps alone. "Our primary focus continues to be on driving revenue growth opportunities while managing expenses and inventory commitment levels," for Nook, Huseby said in a call with investors. "To improve content sales, we are focused on increasing sales to Nook active user base and selling e-reading devices that are closely aligned with

billion, according to FactSet. Revenue fell across all segments. Retail revenue fell nearly 8 percent to \$921 million. College bookstore revenue fell 4.6 percent to \$737.5 million and Nook revenue dropped 32 percent to \$108.7 million. Shares fell 99 cents to \$15.44 during midday trading. The stock is up 9 percent since the beginning of the year. □

US home permits rise to 5-year high

JOSH BOAK
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. developers received approval in October to build apartments at the fastest pace in five years, a trend that could boost economic growth in the final three months of the year. Permits to build houses and apartments were approved at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.034 million, the Commerce Department said Tuesday. That's 6.2 percent higher than the September rate

of 974,000 and the fastest since June 2008, just before the peak of the financial crisis. Nearly all of the increase was for multi-family homes, a part of residential construction that reflects rentals and can be volatile from month to month. Those permits rose 15.3 percent to a rate of 414,000, also the fastest since June 2008. Plans for construction in the U.S. south drove much of the increase. Permits for single-family houses, which make up

roughly two-thirds of the market, rose 0.8 percent to a rate of 620,000. That's still slightly below the August pace of 627,000. And it suggests that higher prices and borrowing costs are weakening buyer demand. Data on homes started in October and September were not included in Tuesday's report. Those figures have been delayed because of the government shutdown and will be released on Dec. 18 with the November home construction report. □

Ad Lib: Plans for growth call for reinforcements

STUART ELLIOTT
© 2013 New York Times

A boutique agency that is becoming increasingly known for its unconventional creative output is bringing in its first chief executive to lead additional growth efforts.

The agency, Johannes Leonardo in New York, is hiring as chief executive Michael Duda, whose résumé includes serving as partner and chief corporate strategy officer at the Deutsch agency in New York, part of Interpublic Group of Cos., along with stints at agencies like Kirshenbaum Bond & Partners.

Duda joins Johannes Leonardo from a marketing consultancy and investment fund named Consigliere Brand Capital, where he was managing partner since he started the firm in 2010 with basketball star Steve Nash.

Duda, 42, is being brought aboard by the two Johannes Leonardo partners with creative backgrounds who founded the agency in 2007, Jan Jacobs and Leo Premutico. Jacobs, 43, and Premutico, 35, who had been serving as de facto chief executives, will continue in their posts as co-chief creative officers. Duda will be a partner as well as the chief executive.

The hiring is indicative of steps that many agencies take as a year draws to a close to ready themselves for the challenges of the year to come. Along with bringing in senior managers, agencies are also forming divisions in specialty areas like digital media, public relations and social media. And there is a spate of deals as some agencies seek growth through acquisitions.

As Duda arrives at Johannes Leonardo, the agency is also beefing up its creative ranks, hiring Tom Martin and Julian Schreiber to serve in the new posts of executive creative directors. Martin and Schreiber join from Clemenger BBDO Melbourne, part of the Clemenger BBDO division of BBDO Worldwide, where they had been creative directors. Johannes Leonardo, which is 49 percent owned by the giant agency holding group WPP, has about 40 employees and was named a small agency of the year for 2011 by the trade publication Advertising Age. The agency has worked for clients that include Bacardi, the Bezos Family Foundation, Chanel, Coca-Cola, Daffy's, Google, Nike and WNYC. For Coca-Cola Co., for instance, Johannes Leonardo is creating campaigns that run around the world for brands like Sprite. The agency's initial campaign for the diet drinks Diet Coke and Coca-Cola Light is tentatively scheduled to start appearing in February.

At Johannes Leonardo, "We've been fortunate to work on some blue-chip pieces of business, and we're planning some really aggressive growth," Jacobs said. "We've gotten to the point where we felt it was time to get someone aboard who has that skill set Mike has." Premutico cited Duda's experience in the last three years in startups with Consigliere, which has worked with brands like Birchbox, Chobani, Dish Network, Under Armour and Warby Parker, as well as "the experience Mike had at Deutsch in a new-business capacity." "That's a great combination," Premutico said. "He can help big brands remain nimble by bringing an entrepreneurial mindset to them." Jacobs said Duda "came recommended to us by a number of people who said, 'You should know this guy, whether or not you end up working together.'" "We liked his vision," Jacobs added. Premutico called Duda "a great guy with a genuine passion for where the industry is headed," which is increasingly important as "digital agencies try to add skills in traditional advertising, and traditional agencies try to add digital skills." □



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Solid 3Q Asia Pacific sales help Tiffany

NEW YORK (AP) — Tiffany & Co.'s third-quarter net income climbed 50 percent, buoyed by strong sales in the Asia-Pacific region.

Its performance topped Wall Street's expectations, and the luxury retailer on Tuesday raised its full-year adjusted earnings forecast above analysts' estimates. Shares climbed almost 8 percent trading on the news.

Tiffany's results come as the holiday shopping kicks off into high gear later this week. The jewelry chain is considered a barometer of luxury spending. The latest results show that the affluent continue to spend, bolstered by a stock market that is reaching new highs. "Despite the obvious economic and consumer uncertainties in some regions, our management team see great opportunities ahead of us," Jim Fernandez, Tiffany's executive vice president and chief operating officer, told investors.

Chairman and CEO Michael Kowalski said in a statement that shoppers are responding well to its expanded fashion jewelry designs, which includes the Atlas collection. He said that the company is also experiencing improved sales of fine and statement jewelry, with particular strength in its yellow diamond collection.

Tiffany earned \$94.6 million, or 73 cents per share, for the three months that ended Oct. 31. □

Markets end higher; Nasdaq ends above 4,000

KEN SWEET

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Upbeat news from the housing industry and luxury retailer Tiffany & Co. nudged the

On Tuesday, homebuilder shares were among the top gainers in the broader stock market. They rose after the Commerce Department reported that

with Prudential Financial. Shares of PulteGroup, Toll Brothers and Lennar Corp. all rose 3 percent or more. The Nasdaq closed up 23.18 points, or 0.6 percent,

ings. The company also raised its full-year forecast. Stock and bond markets are closed Thursday in observance of Thanksgiving. On Friday, the New York Stock Exchange and Nasdaq will close early.

Investors continue to pay close attention to any details from retailers, with the approach of Black Friday, the busy shopping day that follows Thanksgiving.

Due to the lateness of Thanksgiving, the holiday shopping season is a week shorter than usual and that could affect the amount of shopping people do. An increasing number of retailers are opening up on Thanksgiving to draw in customers.

Holiday shopping can account for as much as 40 percent of the retail industry's annual sales. The National Retail Federation, the nation's largest retail trade group, expects an increase of 3.9 percent to \$602.1 billion in holiday sales this year.

Already, many retailers have trimmed profit forecasts for the year, citing Americans' hesitation to spend a lot of money. Barnes & Noble shares fell 98 cents, or 6 percent, to \$15.45 after the bookseller's fiscal second-quarter sales fell short of Wall Street expectations.

In other company news, men's clothing store Jos. A. Bank rose \$5.69, or 11 percent, to \$56.29 after rival Men's Wearhouse offered to buy the company for \$1.5 billion. Men's Wearhouse rose \$3.53, or 8 percent, to \$50.60. □



Trader Patrick McKeon, left, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Upbeat news from the housing industry and luxury retailer Tiffany & Co. nudged the U.S. stock market higher Tuesday, ahead of the U.S. holiday.
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

U.S. stock market higher Tuesday.

Investors also got another market milestone when the Nasdaq composite closed above the 4,000-point mark for the first time in 13 years.

The event follows two other round-number moments last week. The Standard & Poor's 500 index closed above 1,800 for the first time, and the Dow Jones industrial average finished above 16,000.

approvals for housing permits rose in October at the fastest pace in five years. Those applications indicate that builders expect heightened demand.

Most of the growth in the report came from apartment permits, not homes, but investors felt the data was positive.

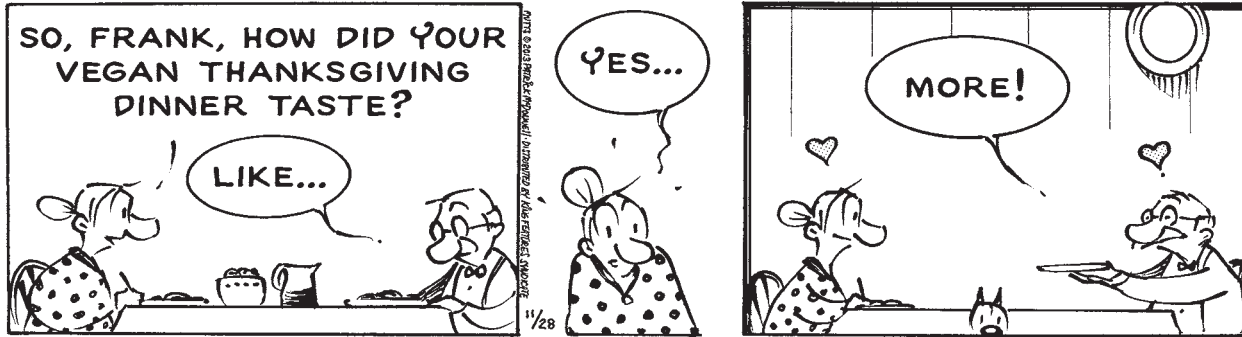
"It's going to translate into job creation once those permits turn into actual construction," said Quincy Krosby, market strategist

to 4,017.75. The last time the Nasdaq closed above the 4,000-point level was Sept. 6, 2000.

The other two major stock indexes inched higher. The Dow rose less than a point to 16,072.80. The S&P 500 index also rose less than a point, to 1,802.75.

Tiffany & Co. rose the most in the S&P 500 index. The jewelry chain jumped \$7.03, or 9 percent, to \$88.02, after it reported strong third-quarter earn-

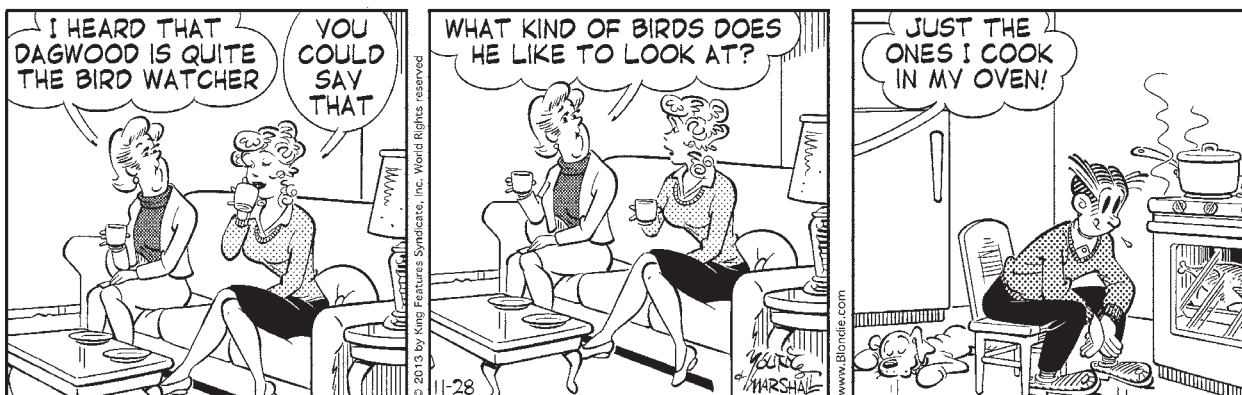
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



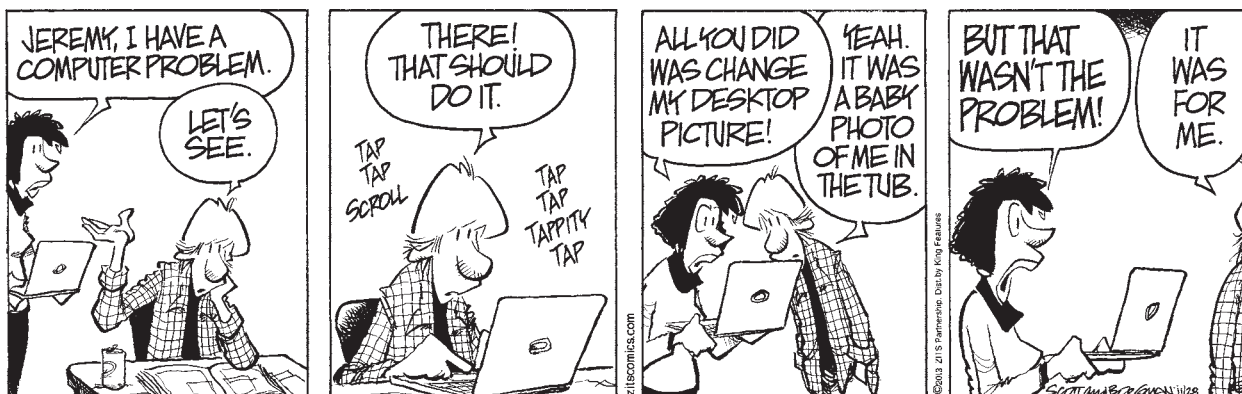
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		9			3	2		8
			6	8				
7								9
	4				8			6
	5						9	
2			1				3	
5								2
				2	1			
6		3	5			7		

Difficulty Level ★★★

11/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	8	3	1	2	5	6	9	7
7	1	5	6	9	3	4	8	2
9	2	6	8	7	4	5	3	1
5	6	7	4	8	2	3	1	9
3	4	8	7	1	9	2	5	6
2	9	1	3	5	6	7	4	8
6	7	4	9	3	8	1	2	5
1	5	9	2	4	7	8	6	3
8	3	2	5	6	1	9	7	4

ACROSS

- Liz's Michael
- Muscle cramp
- Small store
- On __ with; equivalent to
- Hooded fur jacket
- Swimming spot
- List of dishes
- Say
- Greek liqueur
- Catch in a trap
- Paid no attention to
- Relatives
- Weasel; shifty person
- Trimmed a lawn's border
- __ and hers
- "Ode on a Grecian Urn" poet
- Press
- Feel poorly
- Railroad porter
- Water barrier
- Changed a bit
- Geisha's sash
- Come forth
- Oct.'s follower
- Swamp animal, for short
- More unusual
- Frozen
- Narrow boat
- Harmony
- Talk on and on
- Highest in rank
- Torn __ cuff; shoulder injury
- Palm or cedar
- Colorful parrot
- Impolite
- Breakfast order
- Once more
- Finishes
- Disarray
- Unpopular intellectuals
- Examination

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21			22		23			
			24			25						
26	27	28			29			30	31	32	33	
34				35			36					
37			38			39			40			
41		42			43				44			
45					46				47			
			48	49			50					
51	52	53				54			55	56	57	
58				59	60				61			
62				63					64			
65				66					67			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/28/13

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

POSE	RENAL	UNDO
OVEN	EXILE	PEON
GENE	CELLOPHANE	
ORS	HIRE	RILES
ADEPT	YUL	
SATIRE	SUNLIT	
ALICE	CHILE	NAB
ROOK	ROUGE	MILE
INN	MIRTH	MOTOR
ESTATE	MEWING	
RUE	BALSA	
ABDUL	BIND	TWO
REASSURING	TIED	
CANT	SINGE	HOLD
HUES	EDGER	ENDS

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11/28/13

DOWN

- Not wild
- Ajar
- Rather & Fouts
- Intoxicated
- Reject scornfully
- Cracker spread
- Mr. Linkletter
- Coils of yarn
- Bart Simpson's mom
- Frightened
- Sixty minutes
- Seep out
- Walk with heavy steps
- Lend a hand to
- __ as a jaybird
- Total absence of noise
- Sea duck
- Play
- Jim Nabors' TV role
- Strike
- Oak nut
- No-no
- Nutmeg or cinnamon
- Tavern drink
- Gun the engine
- Concur
- __ Rogers; Trigger's rider

- Hold in, as a laugh
- Musical hit for Liza Minnelli
- Cold geological period
- Tabby or calico
- Jordan's capital
- Long dresses
- Plant part
- Strong craving
- Small dowels
- Sudden attack
- Melody
- Likelihood
- Take a nap
- Taurus or Prius

2013 Rotary Golf Tournament Raises Funds for Charity

Continued from page 13



The winning Travis team included Edson Kelly, Eddy Mohamed, Travis Bernadina and Milton Boezem. They came in ahead of the Complete Solutions team with Nigel Nedd, George Wong, Pablo Carmona and Larry Nedd. Third place winners, the Four

Stooges, included Greg Martis, Giovanni Atencio, Pierre Rafini and Alex Molina. Rennie Arends and Otto Van Dieren came closest to the pin on holes #5 & #7 respectively. Edson Kelly enjoyed the longest drive. □



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Study: U.S. spews 50% more methane than agency says

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is spewing 50 percent more methane — a potent heat-trapping gas — than the federal government estimates, a new comprehensive scientific study says. Much of it is coming from just three states: Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas.

That means methane may be a bigger global warming issue than thought, scientists say. Methane is 21 times more potent at trapping heat than carbon dioxide, the most abundant global warming gas, although it doesn't stay in the air as long.

Much of that extra methane, also called natural gas, seems to be coming from livestock, including manure, belches, and flatulence, as well as leaks from refining and drilling for oil and gas, the study says. It was published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.

The study estimates that in 2008, the U.S. poured 49 million tons of methane into the air. That means U.S. methane emissions trapped about as much heat as all the carbon dioxide pollution coming from cars, trucks, and planes in the country in six months. That's more than the 32 million tons estimated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Administration or the nearly 29 million tons reckoned by the European Commission.

"Something is very much off in the inventories," said study co-author Anna Michalak, an Earth scientist at the Carnegie Institution for Science in Stanford, California. "The total U.S. impact on the world's energy



This undated handout photo provided by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory/ Energy Department shows a Cessna plane, making continuous observations of carbon dioxide, flying over an Atmospheric Radiation Measurement tower used by the Energy Department near the town of Lamont, Oklahoma. Pat Dowell, a research technician at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is collecting flask samples from the tower.

Associated Press

budget is different than we thought, and it's worse." EPA spokeswoman Alisha Johnson said her agency hasn't had time to go through the study yet, but hopes it will help "refine our estimates going forward." While the world has a good handle on how much carbon dioxide is pumped into the air, scientists have been more baffled by methane emissions. They have had to use computer models to estimate how much methane is going into that air. This study, however, was

based on nearly 13,000 measurements from airplane flights and tall towers, the most used in any such research.

The information was collected in 2008, right at the beginning of the natural gas boom from hydraulic fracturing. So these measurements, which will be repeated for 2012, don't include much impact from fracking, Michalak said. Studies recently have shown conflicting results about how much methane escapes during fracking and other forms of fossil fuel drilling.

Outside experts praised the study. Robert Howarth at Cornell University called "it very compelling and quite important. This is the most comprehensive study yet."

Michalak said because of the way they measured methane — just looking for

it in the air as opposed to tracking it from a source — it is hard to say what is putting more methane into the air. But she said by looking at concentrations — especially within Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas — the scientists have a good idea: Cows, oil and gas. Nearly one-quarter of the U.S. methane emissions came from those three states. Texas is by far and away the No. 1 state for refineries that turn oil into gasoline. Texas and Oklahoma have been big oil and gas drilling states and

Kansas is a big cow state. Cows seem to be spewing twice the methane that scientists previously thought, Michalak said.

While burps and flatulence are part of the methane emission from cattle, University of California Santa Barbara professor Ira Leifer said a bigger factor is manure.

"If you shovel it into an artificial lagoon you are creating the perfect production for methane, but it cuts down on the smell and your neighbors complain less," he said. □

Researchers say they found oldest Buddhist shrine



In this undated but recent photo released by National Geographic, archaeologists Robin Coningham, second from right, of Britain's Durham University and Nepalese archaeologist Kosh Prasad Acharya, right, direct excavations within the Mayadevi Temple, uncovering a series of ancient temples contemporary with the Buddha as Thai monks meditate in the background. Buddha, also known as Siddhartha Gautama, is generally thought to have been born in about the sixth century B.C. at the temple site.

Associated Press

BINAJ GURUBACHARYA
Associated Press

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Archaeologists in Nepal say they have discovered traces of a wooden structure dating from the sixth century B.C. that they believe is the world's oldest Buddhist shrine.

Kosh Prasad Acharya, who teamed with archaeologists from Britain's Durham University, said Tuesday that the structure was unearthed inside the sacred Mayadevi Temple in Lumbini. Buddha, also known as Siddhartha Gautama, is generally thought to have been born in about the sixth century B.C. at the temple site.

The findings were published

in the December issue of the journal *Antiquity*.

Acharya said the traces were tested using radiocarbon and luminescence techniques, which found they dated from the sixth century B.C.

The archaeological team dug underneath previously known brick structures inside the temple, and experts from Scotland's University of Sterling examined and collected the samples, he said. The team has been working on the site for the past three years.

Previously, a pillar installed by Indian Emperor Ashok with inscriptions dating to the third century B.C. was considered to be the oldest Buddhist structure □

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Toy company sues Beastie Boys over 'Girls' song

PAUL ELIAS

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A U.S. toy company is fighting for its right to parody a popular Beastie Boys song. Oakland, California-based GoldieBlox filed a lawsuit in federal court seeking permission to continue using a spoof of the rap song "Girls."

The song was on the trio's first album, "Licensed to Ill," released in 1986. It sings of the desire for girls to "do the dishes ... to do the laundry ... to clean up my room." The company's marketing video spoofing the song depicts young girls singing about building spaceships and coding software.

The video has gone viral in recent weeks, and some 8 million people have viewed it on YouTube. The spoof is attempting to sell the company's GoldieBlox engineering toys aimed at girls.

The company said it filed

the lawsuit last week after the Beastie Boys threatened their own legal action for copyright infringement.

"GoldieBlox created its parody video specifically to comment on the Beastie Boys song, and to further the company's goal to break down gender stereotypes and to encourage young girls to engage in activities that challenge their intellect, particularly in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math," the company's lawsuit stated. On Monday, the two surviving band members — Adam Horowitz and Michael Diamond — said in an open letter posted on their publicist's website that they support the toy company's message of empowering girls.

But they have a blanket ban on using their songs in advertisements.

"As creative as it is, make



This August 2012 file photo released by GoldieBlox, Inc., shows the toy items from "GoldieBlox and the Spinning Machine," photographed in San Francisco.

Associated Press

no mistake, your video is an advertisement that is designed to sell a product, and long ago, we made a conscious de-

cision not to permit our music and/or name to be used in product ads," the band members said through their publicist.

"When we tried to simply ask how and why our song 'Girls' had been used in your ad without our permission, YOU sued US." □

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It's a matter of prestige and quality...

Present this ad and receive a FREE Aruhiba Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. With any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. Aruhiba gift boxes are now available at Dufry Shop at the Airport.



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Alec Baldwin's show ending on MSNBC



In this Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013 file photo, actor Alec Baldwin leaves criminal court in New York. Associated Press

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Alec Baldwin has his Friday nights back. He and MSNBC said Tuesday they were ending his weekly talk show after the actor had been suspended for two weeks for using an anti-gay slur in a New York City street encounter. MSNBC said it was a "mutual parting and we wish Alec all the best." "Up Late with Alec Baldwin" had aired only five episodes. The first three at-

tracted a little more than a half million viewers, but the last two dipped under 400,000 viewers. The Emmy-winning former star of "30 Rock" had lost his cool in the New York City street encounter. He later tweeted that he did not realize the profane phrase he used was offensive to gays, but then apologized. He later said that the incident took place as he tried to protect his family. MSNBC suspended Baldwin for two weeks, a

punishment that was due to end this Friday. The encounter came during the same week a Canadian actress was convicted in New York of stalking Baldwin with calls, emails and visits over a two-year period. Genevieve Sabourin was sentenced to six months in jail in addition to a month she's already serving

for her courtroom outbursts. On the same day Baldwin was suspended, another MSNBC personality, Martin Bashir, made a graphic suggestion for how Sarah Palin should be punished for comments on slavery. Bashir apologized and MSNBC said it is handling the problems internally. The end

of Baldwin's show came on the same day CBS ordered "60 Minutes" correspondent Lara Logan and her producer to take a leave of absence following a critical internal review of their handling of a report about the fatal attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya. □

Beats Electronics backing Muscle Shoals upgrades



This Oct. 2, 2012 file photo shows chairman of Interscope-Geffen A&M Jimmy Iovine attends Montblanc de la Culture Arts Patronage Award honoring Quincy Jones in Los Angeles. Associated Press

CHRIS TALBOTT

AP Music Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Jimmy Iovine and Luke Wood were so moved by the "Muscle Shoals" documentary, they're putting up money to make sure the unique spirit of the Alabama music haven lives on.

The Beats Electronics officials are starting a program to refurbish and upgrade two historic studios in Muscle Shoals — FAME Recording Studios and Muscle Shoals Sound Studio — then will install education programs to train a new generation of producers, audio engineers and musicians.

"We want to look back at another Muscle Shoals revival based on what was learned in these studios in the next five to 10 years," said Wood, president of Beats.

Muscle Shoals, a quiet town in the northern part of the state, was a focal point

of the music world for more than two decades. The town offered a wellspring of local talent that eventually got the attention of the biggest recording artists in the world. The Rolling Stones, Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Willie Nelson and a surprisingly diverse group of artists made some of the best music of their careers working with FAME owner Rick Hall and the musicians he assembled in a long, prolific run.

North Alabama remains a fertile musical proving ground, with a thriving scene that includes Jason Isbell, Alabama Shakes and John Paul White, one-half of The Civil Wars. The Black Keys recently recorded their Grammy-winning album "Brothers" there in 2009. It was the first album recorded at Muscle Shoals Sound Studio in 30 years. The building had fallen into disrepair, however, something Iovine and Wood

discovered while doing more research on Muscle Shoals after watching Greg "Freddy" Camalier's documentary. Beats, in association with the Muscle Shoals Soul Foundation, will refurbish the building and install modern and vintage recording gear so future students can learn old and new techniques in the art of sound recording. Iovine, the Beats co-founder and Interscope Geffen A&M chairman who got his start as a producer, feels that art is being forgotten in the age of Pro Tools.

"It's not as much about the building. It's the aesthetic and the culture we're trying to maintain," Iovine said. "It's been passed down. That's why it's so good to have these places around the world because it's a tribal thing, there's a culture being passed down."

Beats also will make upgrades to FAME where Hall, a protege of Sun Records' Sam Phillips, housed a series of bands that helped write rock 'n' roll, soul and R&B history. One of those bands was The Swampers, whose members later opened the rival Sound Studio.

Beats will offer successful applicants the chance to work and learn in both studios when the restoration is complete. A portion of holiday sales of the company's audio products will kick off the project.

"It's a restoration project, but we don't want it to be a museum," Wood said. "We want it to be a living, breathing place where magic can happen again." □

Jazz drummer Chico Hamilton passes away at 92

CHRIS TALBOTT

AP Music Writer

Forestborn "Chico" Hamilton, a distinguished jazz drummer, band leader and composer known for inspiring fellow and aspiring musicians, has died. He was 92.

A news release from Hamilton's publicist says he died Monday in New York City. Hamilton recorded more than 60 albums as a band leader, beginning in the 1950s, and he appeared in and scored films. He was saluted as a Living Jazz Legend by the Kennedy Center.

He founded a commercial and film music production company after moving to New York in 1965 and helped found the New School University Jazz & Contemporary Music Program.

Born in Los Angeles in 1921,



This June 22, 2004 file photo shows Chico Hamilton, a recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters Fellowship, performing a drum solo in the East Room of the White House during a reception to honor Black Music Month, in Washington.

Associated Press

he was in a school band with Charles Mingus and Dexter Gordon and other classmates destined to become jazz innovators. □

Why The Y?



MAUREEN DOWD

© 2013 New York Times CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - Even sitting in an MIT classroom made me feel smarter.

But I was still struggling with the difference between meiosis and parthenogenesis.

Dr. David Page, the zippy evolutionary biologist teaching a class Wednesday called "Are Males Really Necessary?," had helpfully laid out some props to illustrate gene swapping - bananas, apples and heads of lettuce arranged on a table covered with a flowery white tablecloth.

"Since only females can give birth, why is it of any advantage to the species to have a second sex?" he asked. "Why should nature bother with males?"

He told the packed classroom about the ingenious genetic feat of the Laredo striped whiptail lizards in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas and Mexico.

"This species is a Girls Only club, and the girls reproduce by cloning themselves," Page said. "In the species with males, life is pretty routine. The females produce eggs, the males produce sperm, fertilization occurs and the male-inclusive life cycle is completed. In species without males, life has a different texture. The females produce eggs, but the eggs do not need sperm. That's parthenogenesis, which is a big word that means we understand absolutely nothing about how this works."

He said old-fashioned fertilization (meiosis) beat cloning (parthenogenesis) because, as genes mutate, "males provide females with spare parts."

It had been eight years since I'd talked to Page, director of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, about doomsday predictions that we were hurtling toward a planet without men in a mere 100,000 to 10 million years.

The Y chromosome was shedding genes and wilting into a mere remnant of its once mighty structure. Y declinists were arguing that, from sperm count to social status, men were vanishing, Snapchat-style.

The Y had shrunk to a fraction of the size of its partner, the X chromosome. (Obviously, Stephen Colbert told Page, it had just gotten out of the pool.)

The Y-sky-is-falling predictions mirrored Hanna Rosin's thesis in "The End of Men," showing that women are consolidating power - as graduates, breadwinners, single mothers, consumers.

Indeed, former Clinton money guy Terry McAuliffe would not

be the new governor of Virginia if his Republican opponent, Ken Cuccinelli, had not scared off single women by belonging to a state party crew that was chasing women around with wands, trying to do transvaginal probes.

Even back when I first talked to Page - known as Mr. Y - he cast himself as "the defender of the rotting Y chromosome."

He painted a picture of the Y as "a slovenly beast," sitting in his worn armchair, surrounded by boxes and pizza crusts.

"The Y wants to maintain himself but doesn't know how," he said. "He's falling apart, like the guy who can't manage to get a doctor's appointment or clean up the house or apartment unless his wife or girlfriend does it."

But, as it turned out, it was a mistake to underestimate a chromosome that had for centuries madly attacked, annexed, enslaved, pillaged, plundered, inseminated and thrust forward to create great art, architecture and literature. Driven no doubt by lust and ego, the Y heroically revived.

"The Y chromosome did essentially fall asleep at the wheel about 200 to 300 million years ago, not long after we parted evolutionary company with birds, while we were still pretty close to our reptilian ancestors," Page tells me now. "And then, at the last minute before the car veered off the cliff, the Y chromosome woke up and got with the program and said, 'I don't have a lot left, but what I have left I'm going to keep.'"

Page and Dr. Jennifer Hughes led a team that decoded the Y chromosome of rhesus monkeys, which share a common ancestor with humans, and discovered that the Y's gene shedding leveled off about 20 million to 30 million years ago. In the Y's cliffhanger, the chromosome used its toolbox to repair some of its genes and became fastidious about not allowing the other genes to be damaged.

As The New York Times' Nicholas Wade sanguinely noted, "There are grounds for hope that the Y chromosome has reached a plateau of miniaturized perfection and will shrivel no more."

While the Y was shrinking, the "buxom" X, as Wade dubbed it - formerly considered "a staid, pristine relic," as Page says - was growing larger and stronger, acquiring new bunches of genes, some of which play roles in producing sperm.

But just when the Y thought it was safe to go back in the water, a new American study in the journal Science shows that mice, with only two Y chromosome-derived genes, can produce cells capable of joining with an egg to make a new mouse.

"Scientists have practically obliterated the ultimate symbol of maleness in DNA, the Y chromosome," the BBC reported, "and believe they may be able to do away with it completely."

Which brings us to a recent Sarah Silverman tweet: "Dear Men, Just b/c we don't need you anymore doesn't mean we don't WANT you! Love forever, Women." □



Puddleglum And The Savage



ROSS DOUTHAT

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They died in their homes, not from an assassin's bullet, and in their 60s, not in their prime. When C.S. Lewis collapsed in his Oxford bedroom, the presidential motorcade was leaving Love Field. When Aldous Huxley requested a final shot of LSD, a TV set in the next room had just blared the news that the president had been shot. And then the coincidence of two of modernity's keenest critics dying on the same November day was lost in a storm of headlines and public grief.

It's too soon to reclaim Nov. 22, 1963, for Huxley and Lewis, and reassign John F. Kennedy to a lower rung of historical significance, where some of us suspect his presidency belongs. But pausing amid this month's Kennedy-anniversary coverage to remember the two British-born writers offers a useful way to think about the JFK mythos as well. Huxley and Lewis did not share a worldview - one was a seeker drawn to spiritualism, Eastern religion and psychedelics; the other was (and remains) the most famous Christian apologist in the modern English-speaking world. But they shared a critique of contemporary civilization, and offered a similar warning about where its logic might end up taking us.

For Huxley, this critique took full shape in "Brave New World," his famous portrait of a dystopia in which the goals of pleasure and stability have crowded out every other human good, burying discontent under antidepressants, genetic engineering and virtual-reality escapes.

For Lewis, the critique was distilled in "The Abolition of Man," which imagined a society of "men without chests," purged of any motivation higher than appetite, with no "chatter of truth and mercy and beauty" to disturb or destabilize.

In effect, both Huxley and Lewis looked at a utilitarian's paradise - a world where all material needs are met, pleasure is maximized and pain eliminated - and pointed out what we might be giving up to get there: the entire vertical dimension in human life, the quest for the sublime and the transcendent, for romance and honor, beauty and truth.

Two passages from their work illustrate this point - that comfort purchased by sacrificing transcendence might not be worth the cost. The first comes from Lewis' Narnia novel "The Silver Chair," in which a character named Puddleglum confronts a queen who has confined the heroes in an underground kingdom, and lulled them with the insistence that the underground world is all there is - that ideas like the sun and sky are dangerous wishful thinking, undermining their immediate contentment.

"Suppose we have only dreamed, or made up, all those things," Puddleglum replies - "trees and grass and sun and moon and stars and Aslan himself. Suppose we have. Then all I can say is that, in that case, the made-up things seem a good deal more important than the real ones ... We're just babies making up a game, if you're right. But four babies playing a game can make a play-world which licks your real world hollow."

The second comes from the end of "Brave New World," when a so-called "Savage" raised outside the dystopia confronts its presiding "Controller," Mustapha Mond. The Savage lists everything that's been purged in the name of pleasure and order - historical memory,

art and literature, religion and philosophy, the tragic sense. And Mond responds that "these things are symptoms of political inefficiency," and that the comforts of modern civilization depend on excluding them.

"But I don't want comfort," the Savage says. "I want God, I want poetry, I want real danger, I want freedom, I want goodness. I want sin."

Which brings us back to that notorious sinner John F. Kennedy. What exhausts skeptics of the Kennedy cult, both its elegiac and paranoid forms, is the way it makes a saint out of a reckless adulterer, a Camelot out of a sordid political operation, a world-historical figure out of a president whose fate was tragic but whose record was not terribly impressive.

But in many ways the impulses driving the Kennedy nostalgists are the same ones animating Lewis' Puddleglum and Huxley's Savage - the desire for grace and beauty, for icons and heroes, for a high-stakes dimension to human affairs that a consumerist, materialist civilization can flatten and exclude.

And one can believe JFK is a poor vessel for these desires, and presidential politics the wrong place to satisfy them, without wishing they would disappear.

"It is a serious thing," Lewis wrote, describing the implications of his religious worldview, "to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would strongly be tempted to worship."

It is obviously a serious mistake, from this perspective, to deify someone prematurely or naively, as too many of Kennedy's admirers have done.

But it's a much greater mistake, the two writers who entered eternity with JFK would argue, to seek a brave new world with no heights or depths, no room for divinity or heroism anymore. □

New rules for 2013 Black Friday shopping!

Nedra Rhone

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ATLANTA -- Black Friday has been a tradition for decades, but this year, shop-

Early means early: You thought things were starting early last year? Well this year, everything is even earlier. More stores are

day has the reputation of bringing out the worst in people with incidents of pepper spraying and trampling. This year, in an effort

are gone, so is the inventory.

Price matching: Price matching is the newest way to smash the compe-

More plan to spend less for holiday gifts

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COLONIE, N.Y. – More of us

are tightening our holiday budgets, according to a new survey.

Just half, 51 percent, of New Yorkers plan to spend \$500 or more on Christmas gifts this year, down from 56 percent a year ago, the Siena Research Institute reported Monday. And 28 percent, up from 23 percent last year, said they'll spend less than \$300.

"As far as holiday spending is concerned, expect a repeat of 2012," said Don Levy, the institute's director.

"Equal numbers of New Yorkers say that they are better off and worse off economically than they were last year while nearly half seem to shrug when saying that their finances are unchanged. It all seems to add up to a year of little change on spending," Levy added.

Nearly two thirds say they'll shop online this year, up from 56 percent a year ago. Meanwhile, 64 percent said they don't think stores should be open on Thanksgiving Day.

And 38 percent said they'd be shopping at independent retailers on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Holiday forecast:

Siena Research Institute polls show how more than 631 New Yorkers feel about the upcoming holidays, how much they are going to spend and where they are going to do most of their shopping.

Q: What percentage of your holiday shopping do you plan to conduct online this year:

33%: None
20%: 20% More than none, but less than 25%
18%: 25% to just under 50%
18%: 50% to just under 75%
10%: 75% to 100%
2%: Don't know/Refused

Q: Compared to last year, do you plan to spend more money on holiday gifts, less money or about the same?



A reindeer sculpture carries a load of gift-wrapped presents in a holiday window display at Macy's, Thursday, Nov. 21, 2013 in New York. Black Friday has been a tradition for decades, but this year, shopping on Black Friday may actually be a little different.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

ping on Black Friday may actually be a little different. How? You ask. Retailers are changing up everything from the way you line up to the price you pay for deals in an effort to keep customers shopping. Here are some of the new rules for Black Friday:

open on Thanksgiving Day. Lines have already formed at some stores. Pre-Black Friday sales featuring Black Friday prices happened this past weekend. If you haven't at least started thinking about Black Friday, you're late.

Orderly conduct: Black Fri-

to create a better shopping experience, some stores will issue wristbands or tickets for certain doorbuster items to anyone in line. Shoppers will then have a period of time to claim the item once the selling event begins. When the tickets or wristbands

tion. Some retailers have made the unprecedented move of matching a competitor's advertised Black Friday prices well in advance of Black Friday. And they are not only matching in-store prices, some will match a competitor's online pricing as well.

The shipping news for holiday packages

Nedra Rhone

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ATLANTA -- Shopping for gifts is only part of holiday gift giving. Another key piece, particularly for people with out-of-town family and friends, is getting your gifts to the recipient on time. Whether you shop online or buy gifts and ship them yourself, here's your guide to getting it all there before Christmas.

Some information is subject to change, so check with the USPS for up-to-date shipping news.

United States Postal Service:

In general, this is the most affordable shipping method. Save time by printing labels with postage online. You can buy shipping materials at your local post office. Below are some important dates to make sure your packages are delivered by Christmas. Visit www.usps.com for additional information.

Military Mail: The date for Standard Post service has passed. Ship by Dec. 3 for Parcel Air Lift Mail (air trav-

el). All mail going to APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093 must be shipped by Dec. 3. First Class and Priority Mail going to all other military addresses must be shipped by Dec. 10. Priority Mail Express Military Service is available until Dec. 17 for selected military/diplomatic post offices. Check with your local post office to find out if this service is available to an APO/FPO/DPO address.

International Mail: Deadlines range from Dec. 2 (First Class & Priority Mail to Central & South America

or Africa) through Dec. 19 for Global Express Guaranteed Service to Canada. For a full list of International dates visit the website. The cut-off dates listed by the Post Office do not take into account time needed for customs clearance and if you're shipping outside of major foreign cities, be sure to allow extra transit time.

Domestic Mail: Ship Standard Post by Dec. 14, First-Class Mail by Dec. 20, Priority Mail by Dec. 21 and Priority Mail Express by Dec. 23.